

THE ATHENÆUM

Journal of English and Foreign Literature, Science, the Fine Arts, Music and the Drama.

No. 3385.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 1892.

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INTIMATION IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the University Court of the University of St. Andrews will, at next Meeting, elect a person to fill the Office of EXAMINER in MENTAL PHILOSOPHY about to become vacant. By order of the Court. STUART GRACE, Secretary.

St. Andrews, Sept. 2nd, 1892.

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J. M. HORSBURGH, M.A., Secretary.

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, LONDON.

LECTURES ON ZOOLOGY.

The General Course of Lectures on Zoology by Prof. W. F. R. WELDON, M.A. F.R.S., commences on WEDNESDAY, October 4, at 1 p.m. These Lectures are intended to meet the requirements of Students preparing for the various Examinations of the University of London.

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Department of Theology, Department of General Literature, Department of Science, Department of Engineering.—On Thursday, October 6, but New Students admitted on the preceding Tuesday.

Department of Medicine.—Monday, October 3.

Department of Evening Classes.—Monday, October 10.

Department of the School.—Wednesday, September 21. New Pupils admitted on preceding day.

The Prospectus of any Department, together with a separate Syllabus of the General Literature, Engineering, and Evening Class Departments, price 2d. each by post, may be obtained by application to the Office, or by letter addressed to J. W. CUNNINGHAM, Secretary.

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Botany—Prof. T. JOHNSON, D.Sc. F.L.S.

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Programmes may be obtained on application at the College, or by letter addressed to the SECRETARY, Royal College of Science, Stephen's Green, Dublin.

THE FIRST TERM of the SESSION will commence on MONDAY, the 3rd October, 1892.

NOTE.—Incoming Associate Students will be required to pass an Entrance Examination in Elementary Mathematics and Elementary Practical Geometry, as indicated on page 5 of Programme, copies of which may be had on application from the Secretary.

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SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 1892.

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LITERATURE

A Foot-note to History: Eight Years of Trouble in Samoa. By Robert Louis Stevenson. (Cassell & Co.)

An intelligent Samoan—and Samoans are very intelligent—might object to the above title as needlessly humble and hardly adequate; it is difficult for the European reader, absorbed in this story, to remember that the whole nation only numbers some 35,000 souls; on the other hand, the events related, if on a Lilliputian scale, are not only full of curious interest, they were also within an ace of landing three great civilized nations, or anyhow their local representatives, in actual warfare.

Mr. Stevenson rightly feels that his Foot-note—he might have called it a page—requires a preface, and even with this assistance the conditions are difficult to realize. These courteous, fine-mannered, eloquent people

"are Christians, church-goers, singers of hymns at family worship, hardy cricketers; their books are printed in London by Spottiswoode, Trübner, or the Tract Society; but in most other points they are the contemporaries of our tattooed ancestors who drove their chariots on the wrong side of the Roman wall. We have passed the feudal system; they are not yet clear of the patriarchal. We are in the thick of the age of finance; they are in a period of communism."

They possessed in abundance all that could make existence, as they understand it, enjoyable, but on one condition, viz., that they should be let alone; and that has become impossible. In their midst is the white man's settlement, the port of Apia, long a sink of iniquity, now vastly improved, but still containing many strange customers. These, as the native feels, are altogether his superiors in cleverness and material resources. But, keenly observant of their conduct and their manners, he asks, wonderingly, "Surely these white men on the beach are not great chiefs?"

To understand rightly the political question, the development of which forms the subject of this volume, it is necessary in a few words to explain the very peculiar constitution of Samoan monarchy. Samoa is not an undivided homogeneous kingdom, but consists of five sovereign districts, each one of which can confer its name upon a

chief, thus making him so far a sovereign; and if all five united and bestowed their title on the same individual, he would become the sovereign of the whole nation. But mutual jealousies between the districts have always prevented this. At the time when our story opens, three of the districts had conferred their name on a great chief, Malietoa, and he was tending to become king of all Samoa. The two remaining provinces, however, soon afterwards each elected a chief of their own, and war would have probably followed, when the Great Powers stepped in, and in the interests of peace insisted on the general recognition of Malietoa. The prestige of the white man was still so powerful that the others acquiesced, and if the Great Powers had all continued loyally to support their own action an era of peace might have been assured. This, however, was not to be. As for what followed, Mr. Stevenson appears to have sifted the evidence carefully and with an honest desire to arrive at the truth. He writes with studied moderation, allowing the facts to speak for themselves. If the result is a heavy indictment against the German policy, he is equally ready to bestow blame on the British or American authorities when they seem to him to deserve it; and as regards the German delinquencies, it must be remembered that Prince Bismarck handsomely and emphatically—though it must be admitted tardily—condemned the action of his subordinate and disavowed the previous policy.

According, then, to Mr. Stevenson's view, "the true centre of trouble, the head of the boil of which Samoa languishes, is the German firm." This powerful corporation, the successors of the great Pacific house of Godefroi, had sufficient influence at Berlin to obtain the appointment of consul for its manager Mr. Weber, and was thus enabled to carry out a very high-handed and unscrupulous policy. And after Mr. Weber's retirement from the consulate, his successor, Capt. Zernsch, was, through the same influence, summarily recalled for attempting to see fair play between "the firm" and the natives. After a long course of such oppression, and of conduct on the German part recalling the fable of the wolf and the lamb, the Samoan chiefs secretly offered the sovereignty of the islands to Great Britain. On the Germans discovering this they proclaimed the deposition of Malietoa, and set up in his stead a more pliable tool, with whom they had for some time been intriguing, the vice-king Tamasese. Malietoa retired to the bush, and offers of help came pouring in, when the Germans threatened to let loose upon the country the black labourers in their plantations, who are dreaded by the Samoans as savages and cannibals. Then Malietoa—whose character, by the way, Mr. Stevenson rather persistently belittles as adorned by virtues rather of a private and passive than of a kingly type—issued a proclamation, saying that out of his great love for his country, and desire that Samoan blood should not be shed for him, he delivered himself up to the Germans, and ending with a touching farewell to the various provinces of his kingdom. He was then carried off in a German vessel; and so, as Mr. Stevenson writes, "the sheep departed with the halo of a saint, and men thought of him as of some King Arthur

snatched into Avillion." Then followed more active allied measures between the Germans and their puppet king, the conveyance of his warriors in their vessels, the shelling of defenceless villages, and the extinction, in the strategic interests of their client, of the immunities of the municipal territory of Apia. It must be remembered that while thus acting they, like ourselves and the Americans, were all this time pledged to support Malietoa! The feelings of the individual members of the white nationalities became greatly embittered. We protested diplomatically; the Americans used plainer English. Capt. Leary, U.S.N., "for the sake of humanity hereby respectfully and solemnly protests in the name of the United States of America and of the civilized world in general against the use of a national vessel for such services as were yesterday rendered by the German corvette Adler." The German captain, a humane man, perhaps not liking the work, replied simply that he was acting under the orders of his consul. "From that moment," Mr. Stevenson writes,

"Leary was in the front of the row. His name is diagnostic, but it was not required; on every step of his subsequent action in Samoa Irishman is writ large; over all his doings a malign spirit of humour presided. No malice was too small for him, if it was only funny."

This must have been specially galling to the German official, for, as Mr. Stevenson declares, while all the other whites appreciated the comic elements in the situation, "in the Germans alone, no trace of humour is to be found, and their solemnity is accompanied by a touchiness often beyond belief. Patriotism flies in arms about a hen; and if you comment upon the colour of a Dutch umbrella, you have cast a stone against the German Emperor. I give one instance, typical, although extreme. One who had returned from Tutuila on the mail cutter complained of the vermin with which she is infested. He was suddenly and sharply brought to a stand. The ship of which he spoke, he was reminded, was a German ship."

But now the most remarkable of all the actors in the drama comes into prominence. Mataafa, the chief of one of the sovereign provinces, was a man of ancient lineage, a devout Roman Catholic, and an ascetic, and used to be spoken of by the French priests with bated breath as a sort of Samoan Henri V. When the discontent produced by the abduction of Malietoa and other harsh measures was at its height, he came forward, and offered himself to the people as their king, pledging himself to retire if Malietoa returned. In spite of the active intervention of the Germans on Tamasese's side his influence gradually increased, till the repulse and defeat of a German landing party, besides shattering for ever, according to our author, the superstitious belief in the white man's superiority, raised Mataafa to a unique position among his people. By this time the white men were ranged in two definitely hostile camps. The British consul and his wife, from humane motives, had turned their house and compound into a hospital, open to the wounded of both parties, but it was resorted to by Mataafa's followers only. Accordingly, their humanity was sharply criticized, and even

"became a ground of quarrel. When the Mataafa hurt were first brought together after

the battle of Matautu, and some more or less amateur surgeons were dressing wounds on a green by the wayside, one of the German consulate went by in the road. 'Why don't you let the dogs die?' he asked. 'Go to Hell!' was the rejoinder. Such were the amenities of Apia."

But worse inhumanities and more dangerous recriminations are recorded, when a striking event suddenly changed the current of affairs—to wit, the famous hurricane, from which, it will be remembered, the British ship *Calliope* alone escaped. Mr. Stevenson states a curious circumstance which we do not remember hearing before, viz., that the loss of the ships was a political and not a nautical catastrophe; in other words, that in ordinary circumstances they would all have steamed out and escaped; but the jealous and hostile feeling between the Germans and Americans disinclined either party to leave the other in occupation of the harbour! Although the story of the hurricane is fresh in our recollection, we can heartily commend Mr. Stevenson's account of it as singularly instructive. It is clear, eloquent, and graphic, and free from those eccentricities of expression which occasionally mar the rest of the narrative. Read besides in connexion with his history of the preceding events, we perceive clearly enough its influence on the future. After reading, too, of all that the Samoans had been suffering at the hands of the Germans, we can appreciate the more fully the nobility of their conduct in risking their lives in the raging surf to save these enemies. And all the while they were so engaged a body of armed German troops were kept drawn up on the beach, hampering not a little the humane action of the Samoans, who, naturally, felt uncertain whether the enemy would take the opportunity to attack them while so engaged. The sight of such heroic and forgiving conduct might in the circumstances have disarmed the Germans' suspicion.

Germany having at last withdrawn her support from Tamasese, and abandoned, apparently, her intention to avenge her defeat at Fangalii, could now do no less than bring back the unfortunate Malietoa. He had been smuggled secretly all over the world, and Mr. Stevenson gives a very curious summary, in the exile's own words, of his reminiscences, from which it is gathered that he was carried with little ceremony (and for what object is not clear) to the Cape, the Cameroons, Hamburg, the Red Sea (whose Biblical celebrity interested him much), and back to the Pacific. But whatever spirit he had before was now hopelessly broken, and the country would have willingly kept Mataafa as their king. But he, with rare self-denial, at once met Malietoa, and, according to his previous word, resigned the kingship to him; and Malietoa now reigns, the neglected puppet of the eccentric and top-heavy administration devised, to suit all susceptibilities, by the Berlin Conference. The new administration, however, is, according to Mr. Stevenson, gradually expiring of inanition amid the general contempt. Mataafa lives apart, honoured and respected. His followers, including almost the entire native population, urge him to proclaim himself king, which would solve every difficulty. But he

cleverly avoids every occasion of offence, and, while styling his residence and court "The Government," actually pays his taxes to "my poor brother Malietoa," which nobody else seems to do. The European officials would gladly crush him, but fortunately have not the means to do so. We cannot, our author says, avoid the conclusion that the only bar to his restoration is the *amour propre* of Germany, who cannot forgive her illustrious enemy, and will never endure to see him in power—a conclusion, besides, which would indefinitely postpone her chances of annexing the group. From such an unworthy policy Mr. Stevenson appeals with confidence to the generosity of Germany and the magnanimity of her sovereign.

"Great concerns press on his attention; the Samoan group, in his view, is but as a grain of dust; and the country where he reigns has bled on too many august scenes of victory to remember for ever a blundering skirmish in the plantation of Vailele. It is to him.....that I make my appeal."

And in so far as the appeal is addressed to ourselves, it seems a fair and clear presentment of the case. It might have been clearer if it had been less humorous and epigrammatic, but the reader would not have been grateful for this. The author's familiarity with his surroundings makes him sometimes, perhaps, forget how strange and unfamiliar they are to the average reader; but the graphic and amusing local touches of native thought and customs, and of character, native and other, may throw on the subject a light not always conveyed by Blue-book narratives. For the many who take a personal interest in Mr. Stevenson's career the book will have an additional interest in the spectacle of a master of fiction struggling, on the whole successfully, with the trammels of fact.

The National Churches. — The Church of Ireland. By Thomas Olden, M.A., M.R.I.A. (Wells Gardner, Darton & Co.)

THE most interesting period of Irish Church history is that before the Norman Conquest, and to this chequered and romantic age Mr. Olden has wisely devoted the greater part of his volume. The later portion of his history may be dismissed briefly, for it is but the perfunctory fulfilment of a distasteful task. Persecutions, repressions, reprisals, the internecine feuds of Christians, have no attraction for this author, and he skims in the lightest manner possible over massacres and torturings and penal codes, dismissing the atrocities of both creeds with impartial brevity. Nor does he narrate the story of the Disestablishment with more enthusiasm; a balder record of dry facts can hardly be conceived of; and it must be admitted that the last hundred and twenty pages are quite unworthy of the admirable chapters by which they are preceded. For seldom has the student of Irish history the good fortune to encounter work so learned and so simple, so instructive and so entertaining, as this brilliant epitome of the history of the early Irish Church. As a vicar of the Disestablished Church Mr. Olden, of course, upholds the view that the Church of Ireland was not the Church of Rome, and history in the main upholds him; indeed, it is surprising

that Roman Catholic historians should strive so hard to support the other theory in the teeth of the Bull of Adrian.

Yet in the interests of this belief the life of St. Patrick has been prolonged to the age of a hundred and twenty, and the commencement of his missionary labours deferred until he was past sixty years of age. This arrangement not only strains our credulity in regard to Patrick's longevity, but burdens us with an earlier Patrick, "Sen" Patrick, or Patrick the Elder, whose mission to Ireland preceded the unsuccessful Papal mission of Palladius, "who was ordained by Pope Celestine, and sent as first bishop to the Scots (Irish) who were believers in Christ." Mr. Olden's opinion, which he states very convincingly, is that there was never but the one Patrick; that his mission preceded, not followed, the mission of Palladius;

"that the reason his name dropped so much out of sight is, that he could not be connected with the Roman mission; and that in the ninth century, by the blending of acts of Palladius with his, as some think, or simply by the liberal employment of fiction, the S. Patrick of popular belief, the missionary of Celestine, the Archbishop and Apostle of Ireland, came into existence."

The evidence of dates and St. Patrick's own writings give weight to this standpoint, and the life of the saint as narrated by Mr. Olden carries greater conviction than the miraculous biographies compiled from the writings of historians of the Middle Ages, with whom our author also joins issue in the case of St. Brigit:—

"It is worthy of notice that in this and other cases there is a difference between the story as told by Colgan and Lanigan from the Latin authorities and as it appears in the simple narrative of the Irish Life. In the former she is a highly educated young lady of noble birth, whose acts are in accordance with the ecclesiastical and social usages of the eighteenth century. In the latter we are carried back to an early age and a primitive state of society, where all is simple and homely, and peculiar usages, religious and social, come into view. Nor in the present case did it appear to the author of the Irish Life that the accident of her birth should lessen our respect for her character and labours."

Brigit, according to her early compatriots, was the daughter of a certain Duffack by his bondmaid—a circumstance so distressing to modern biographers that many refuse to admit it, but of very little importance to the early Irish, who never troubled themselves on the subject of legitimacy, and do not seem to have conceived the idea that the faults of the parents cast any reflection on the children. Brigit is by no means the only Ishmaelite in the Irish calendar, and neither in her case nor any other do the Celtic writers gloss over the facts. The mother of Brigit was sold so soon as Duffack's wife guessed what had occurred; nevertheless, the child belonged by native law to her father, not to her mother's new owner, and when she grew old enough to be of use in the household Duffack took her to his home. But though it had been her wish to enter her father's household, she so pined for her mother that she ran away to the house of the heathen Druid where her mother tended the cattle. "Glad was her mother when she saw her, for she was toil-worn and

weary. And now Brigit took the dairy in hand, and all prospered." The Druid and his wife embraced Christianity, gave her her mother's freedom, and mother and daughter repaired together to Duffack's house. But though the mother was free the daughter belonged to her father, and he, indignant at her practice of giving all his goods to the poor, offered her in sale to the King of Leinster; but the chieftain, impressed with Brigit's sanctity, replied, "It is not meet for us to deal with this maiden, for her merit before God is higher than ours." She was, therefore, freed, and "the form of ordaining a bishop was read over her by Bishop Mel" as a solemn consecration to God's service. And now occurred the great event of her life, the foundation of the monastery at Kildare, the first clear instance of a religious house for both men and women, and also of a monastery provided with a monastic bishop living under the rule of the institution and obeying the superior of the order. Modern Roman Catholic writers object to the tradition that Brigit appointed the bishop and exacted obedience from him, nevertheless this appears to have been the case; and when he presumed to set out for Rome without her permission, he was devoured by wolves at Dunlavin in punishment for his disobedience to his abbess. Brigit's institution of double monasteries was short lived, for thirty years after her death it began to be customary to divide the sexes entirely, but the system of Church government by abbots or "Coarbs" endured for many centuries.

"Diocesan Episcopacy did not exist in the early Church, and no attempt was made to introduce it until the Synod of Rathbreasil in 1118.....There were, in fact, neither dioceses in the ordinary sense, nor parishes, until the twelfth century. The true heads of the Church were the Coarbs, and instead of the compact organization of the Diocesan system.....there were groups of independent monasteries presenting a close parallel to the native clans."

The parallel was closer because Coarbship was in a sense hereditary, the Coarbs being always of the same clan as the founder, and

"whenever a vacancy occurred it was filled by a member of the founder's kin, if a suitable person could be found in a direct line. If not, one was chosen from a collateral branch.....It is unnecessary to pursue the account of the extremely minute regulations except to mention that every possible case was provided for..... and laid down in the Brehon laws."

How this hereditary system was regarded by continental divines we learn from St. Bernard's 'Life of Malachi,' wherein he writes:—

"There had been introduced, by the diabolical ambition of certain people of noble rank, a scandalous usage whereby the Holy See [Armagh] came to be obtained by hereditary succession. For they would allow no person to be promoted to the bishopric, except such as were of their own tribe and family. Nor was it for any short period that this execrable succession had continued, nearly fifteen generations having been already exhausted in this course of iniquity."

But a still greater divergence from the custom of the Roman Church was the prevalence of marriage among the clergy, and (as in the Greek Communion) there appear to have been two distinct classes of clergy, celibate and married, and marriage was no

bar to even episcopal orders. As an ecclesiastic of the Disestablished Church, Mr. Olden lays stress on this, and also on the Brehon laws providing that the Pope must have "virginity, or repentance or lawful espousal," and that bishops be chosen from among "married men to whom had been born only one child." He further illustrates the custom of marriage among the clergy from the lists of sons and daughters of Irish saints; but in the last instance he does not make it clear that the relationship was temporal, nor does he give any examples of married clergy canonized either by the authority of the Church or by the reverence of the people; and it seems probable that the marriage of ecclesiastics was regarded in Ireland before the Norman Conquest much as it is regarded by the High Church party in the English Church to-day. Indeed, the position of the Irish Church in regard to Rome seems to have been pretty similar to that of modern Ritualism. The successor of St. Peter was acknowledged as "the highest bishop," but no obedience was accorded to him.

Very interesting is Mr. Olden's account of the feud between the Roman and Irish missionaries in Germany and France, resulting from their disputes as to the date of Easter, and from the general independence of the Celtic divines, who appear to have exercised the right of private judgment as fully as modern Protestants, and to have drifted far from the authority of Rome during those centuries of the Danish dominion in which Ireland was isolated from the remainder of the civilized world.

Mr. Olden passes lightly over the Danish troubles, and then sums up the system of Church government in two admirable chapters before passing to the consideration of Adrian's Bull, where, in our opinion, the interest of his volume ends. No doubt the later chapters are essential to his work, but they teach nothing to those who are acquainted with the outline of Irish history, and do little to efface the common impression that from the date of the Norman invasion the Church of Ireland has been the most faithful, orthodox, and devoted of all the branches of the Church of Rome.

SCOTTISH PLACE-NAMES.

Place-Names of Scotland. By James B. Johnston, B.D. (Edinburgh, Douglas.)

Place-Names in Strathbogie. By James Macdonald, F.S.A.Scot. (Aberdeen, Wyllie & Son.)

THE study of place-names, always interesting, has of late received additional impetus from the more scientific pursuit of philology, and, in the case of our own island, from the increased knowledge possessed by literary men of the ancient languages of Britain. Much, of course, remains to be done, but so satisfactory a work as the first-named and more comprehensive of the volumes before us could not have been produced even a few decades ago. It marks the end of an age of wild guesses without philological knowledge—of such bits of etymology, to quote the author, as "Poma Dei" for Polmadie (*poll madaidh*, the wolf's pool), or "Kill-many" for Kilmeny (*cill-muine*, church in the thicket). Mr. Macdonald's work, the earlier in point of time, covers a

smaller field, but is also admirable in its way.

Mr. Johnston is in nothing more successful than in the admirable canons he lays down for investigators in the field of Scottish terminology. The maxims that the oldest names are those of rivers, mountains, promontories, and islands, which are consequently the most difficult to explain; that every name once meant something; that every name was once fairly appropriate, and that if possible each should be studied *in situ*; that although every name has a real meaning it may not be that which appears on the surface; that it is of the highest consequence to secure the oldest extant form of spelling of a name; that

"if we can find a name on record before the year 1200 we have a fair chance of correctly surmising its meaning, whereas if no record be found till after 1500, that record may be of small scientific value";

that it is also of the highest importance to know the local pronunciation of names; that it must not be thought that a given name should of necessity be all Celtic, all English, or all Norse, nor that in any given district all the names should belong to one language: these rules, for which the author renders detailed and sufficient reasons, appear to form the whole necessary groundwork for secure investigation. That Mr. Johnston should "have only an amateur's knowledge of Gaelic" is somewhat to be regretted, as on his own showing Celtic names in Scotland must outnumber the rest by about ten to one; but however modest his own estimate of his qualifications, he does not often give the reader cause to note any deficiency, and with the assistance, as he cordially recognizes, of such authorities as Skene and Joyce, Mackinnon and Rhys, he succeeds in placing many derivations beyond conjecture, and in confining conjecture within plausible and reasonable limits. With regard to Scandinavian names, which enter so largely into the nomenclature of the north-eastern and western coasts, and notably of the Hebrides (to say nothing of the traces of the Danish colony in Dumfriesshire), an English-speaking writer has less difficulty, especially as these do not appear in the "curiously corrupt and truncated" forms which Gaelic words assume in districts where English has long been spoken.

The plan of the early chapters of the work is historical, dealing first with the archaic words, such as *Urr* and *Islay* (Ile), which indicate, according to the best authorities, the presence in pre-Celtic times of an Iberian race; then discussing with some fulness the influence of Gadhel and Brython, and among the former of the Pict, with his characteristic prefixes *Pet*, *Fetter*, *Ar*, and *For*; carrying on the inquiry through the successive periods of Norse, Anglian, and Norman influence; allotting a chapter to the ecclesiastical names, which form an important group; and concluding with the few instances of purely modern nomenclature.

On all these subjects our author discusses popularly, but evidently with the ease which comes from long research. His conclusions are, on the whole, those now pretty generally adopted by Celtic scholars. He holds, with Mr. Skene, that the Picts were Celts, speaking a kind of low Gaelic which, in the southern kingdom at any rate (the

region between the Mounth and the Forth), partook largely of Brythonic forms, and rejects, as based on insufficient data, the theory of Prof. Rhys that the Picts were a non-Aryan race. On the other hand, he allows a larger margin of Brythonic influence than seems quite tenable. There can be no doubt that the British race which founded the kingdom of Strathclyde must at one time have pushed the Gadhel a long way before them, and probably dominated over great part of Southern Scotland. But we know that in their turn they gave way before the Dalriad Scots; that Cymric had ceased to be spoken in Strathclyde in the reign of David I., whereas in Queen Mary's days the language of Ayrshire was Gaelic; and that there has never been a trace of spoken Welsh in Scotland in historic times. If we set aside the "blessed word" *Aber*, as to which it is not at all certain that it is exclusively or always Brythonic (*abar* in old Gaelic is said to mean marshy ground; cf. the modern *abar*, which might account for certain "Abers" where there is no confluence of streams),—upon what instances do the Brythonic controversialists rely? The letter *p* is truly said to be a marked characteristic of Cymric. But it is going too far to say that it seldom occurs in Gaelic. Surely such common words as *piuthar*, *paisdean*, *pill*, to say nothing of *posadh* and *pog*, must be allowed their weight; and if the Highlander in pronunciation changes *p* into *b*, he most certainly and more frequently performs the opposite process. Of this our author himself gives examples, but the little word *beag* is only one of innumerable instances. Hence we should doubt whether the presence of *p* in a name often indicates a Brythonic origin. Again, the *Ochils* may be from W. *uchel* (pron. *ichel*), high; but they may as well be from G. *uchdail* (pron. *uche-íl*), high-breasted, or more probably from an old word *achil*, which we have both in Achilty and in Achil, co. Mayo. Words beginning with *tre* may be Welsh, but they might equally be Damnonian (not necessarily Brythonic) Cornish, for we know the Damnonii were in Scotland; or, indeed, the prefix may just be the Scoto-Irish *treb*, a house. So Cockpen may be *coch pen*, and Cockairnie may be *coch earn*, though we should fancy *pen coch* and *earn coch* would be better; but *coch* in Cockpen might well be Norse, and Kincairn seems the oldest form of Cockairnie. In Cocklarichy, Aberdeenshire, *coch* has been evolved from G. *cùl*.

Not to dwell upon minutiae, it seems to us that the Brythonic element in Scottish place-names, though undoubtedly it is present (Penicuik, Gwenystad, &c., speak for themselves), has of late been a little exaggerated. At any rate, the vast majority of names are Gadhelic, with a strong admixture of Norse and hybrid words, and in regard to these Mr. Johnston's lists should not only prove a welcome addition to the library of the student, but should commend themselves to any intelligent tourist who would fain learn the import of quaint terms like *Petticour*, *pette-cuir*, land at the bend (of the cliff); *Shambelly*, *sean-baile*, old town; and others equally *bizarre*; or is attracted by the sonorous suggestiveness of *Machrahanish* or *Ardnamurchan*. *Magh rachan*, shallow plain, + the Norse *nis* or *ness*, seems an appropriate

interpretation of the Campbeltown word; *Ardnamurchan* is not so clear. Mr. Johnston prefers *Aird-na-mor-chinn*, "height on the great headland." Yet that seems hardly admissible. *Aird-a'-chinn-mhoir* would be grammatical, as *ceann* is masculine; but Macleod and Dewar's suggestion, *Aird-nam-morchuan*, "height of the floods" (*morchuan*, a compound substantive), is surely preferable. The word has no doubt been changed in course of time, as *Ard-na-muirehol* is the name, we are told, in Adamnan. A still more debatable question is the etymology of *Glasgow*. It is hardly possible to believe in St. Mungo and the *glas-chu*, greyhound. Why not *Glas-dhu*, dark water? *Dh* nearly = *gh* in *dhu*. In other cases "go" is Scandinavian *gja*, celticized into *geodha*, and meaning the cleft or chasm. Is not this Hebridean use a just possible one for the water-cleft of the Clyde and its city? That "*Glas*" is water hardly admits a doubt.

It is not often, however, that we are inclined to question the author's careful etymology. Among small matters we would note that it is not necessary to explain *Balachulish* (village on the straits) by *bail-na-chaulais*. *Caolas* is masculine, and *Bail' a' chaolais* is right. *Caskieben*, Aberdeenshire, is explained by *crasg-a-beinn*, which is translated "pass between the hills." We doubt, however, whether the derivation is locally correct. *Caisg-a-beinn*, stop or limit of the hill, is nearer the sound, and tallies with a tradition we have heard that the furthest shadow cast by the mountain reached the threshold of the old fortress of the Johnstons. The erection of a building on a spot so marked might be connected with a very primitive superstition. The derivation of *Loch Leven* from *leamhan*, the elm tree, may be sound, but in the case of the Inverness-shire lake the *mh* is not sounded, and the pronunciation *llee-un* seems more analogous to *Lyon*, *q.v.* So says a writer in the *Transactions* of the Gaelic Society of Inverness, to whom we are indebted for the suggestion that Ben Nevis is *ni-mhaise*, "no beauty," a most impressive recognition of the character of its frowning massiveness.

To leave the infinitesimal, let us acknowledge that most of the author's investigations have resulted in real discoveries. He is thorough in his identification of the leading local prefixes, which often appear in shortened and misleading forms, and makes good use of such words as *achadh* and *garraadh* and *cùl*. He is clear on the subject of all the "Pits," translated into Scottish Gaelic by "Baile," and never, he thinks, equivalent to "Both." Of course we are referred to *Pette mac Garnait* and the *locus classicus* in the 'Book of Deer.'

To the Norse element of the subject equal attention has been given. In the Northern Hebrides the Norsemen almost monopolized the place-names in a region in which nearly every man to-day speaks Gaelic, and the west coast is as much affected as the more purely Scandinavian east. Yet few would recognize the familiar *fjord* or *firth* in *Enard*, *Knoydart*, or *Sunart*, or trace the old Norse *bolstaðr* (a dwelling-place) in forms so various as *Lybster*, *Eribol*, *Grisapoll*, *Persebus*, and *Skibo*. *Caithness*, the *Gallaibh* (stranger's country) of the Celts,

and *Sutherland*, of course are Scandinavian names; the "Pentland" *Firth* is Norse for "Pictland"; *Cape Wrath* is *hvarf*, the "corner"; and the wild-sounding *Yell* is *jali, gellid*, or "barren."

Purely English names present no difficulty; the leading feature in their case is the prevalence of the personal element, Saxon and Norman calling the lands after their own names, and *ham* and *ton* and *vill*, and sometimes *burgh*, being suffixed to the settler's own appellative. The Celt, on the other hand, generally describes the natural features of the spot, or, when he is personal, commemorates a mythic hero or a primitive saint. *Columba* and *Ninian*, *Adamnan* and *Maolrubha*, have been god-fathers to scores of "Kils." *Kilmacolm*, pronounced *Kilmacòm*, is "church of my own *Columba*," while in *Ross Maolrubha*'s name is preserved in *Loch Maree*. Though "*Kil*" is the prevalent term for church in Gaelic, the Brythonic "*Llan*" appears in *Lhanbryde*, *Elgin*; and, as in England, there are several instances of the Latin "*Eccles*," of which *Lesmahagow*, "church of St. Machute," is certainly the most curious.

Strathbolgyn, "the strath of the little sacks"—connected somehow, Mr. Johnston seems to think, with the *Firbolg*, a strath noted in Scottish song, and in old days the territorial designation of a high baronial race—is the subject of Mr. Macdonald's interesting volume. Though his field is more contracted, the task of investigation must have been scarcely less arduous than Mr. Johnston's, his list being as full, and the district in some respects presenting difficulties of its own.

Aberdeen, *Banff*, and *Kincardine* are the shires in which Gaelic names have been most corrupted by English-speaking natives, and in which Celtic and Teutonic names lie most closely intermingled. Although within the last fifty years there have been old native families who inherited the knowledge and continued the use of Gaelic, the common speech has for many centuries been Saxon. As to the relative prevalence of names, "*Glenmuick* on *Deeside* contains about one English name to three Gaelic, while *Aberdour*" [on the coast] "has three English names to two Gaelic." In *Banff* and *Kincardine* the proportion as between inland and seaboard parishes is much the same. In the common absence of early historical and topographical MSS.—a lack much owing to the Norse destroyers of the monasteries—the old charters are the most trustworthy sources of early spelling, of which, as well as of descriptions of marches, bonds of man-rent, remissions to barons and their followers in rebellion, and, in a less degree, of inquiries of the sixteenth century and other more modern documents, the author has fully availed himself. In addition to his philological researches, he has made some interesting digressions on certain ancient families, the *Cumins*, *Barclays*, and others, and in some cases added considerably to our information on early local history. Occasionally his derivations appear to us more tenable than some propounded by Mr. Johnston. The name of *Haddo*, for instance—derived by the latter from *fhada*, long, of which the first two letters, if aspiration may be admitted,

would be simply mute—is better explained by the Eng. *half dauch* or *davauch* underlying the older forms Haldach and Haddoch. Cabrach, again, the name of a district traditionally “wooded,” seems better thus interpreted than by supposing the word to have its sense of “a deer,” and the *buck* to be tautological. In the case of one of the leading features of the district, the hill of Bennachie, our authors are again at issue. Mr. Johnston suggests *Beannachaidh*, (the hill) “of blessing,” which appears to want a nominative, and Mr. Macdonald thinks it is *Beinn o’ Che*, “the hill of the Che,” or descendants of Ce, the Pictish hero. We are assured that the popular derivation, “hill of the pap,” *Beinn-na-ciche*, is untenable, though it certainly embodies an appropriate description, as any one who has seen the place can testify. Among other notable names we may instance the Tap o’ Noth, and here the interpretation, *taip o’ nochd*, the “watch hill,” seems highly probable; Fourman, *fuair-monadh*, “cold hill,” where *man=mon*, the common contraction of *monadh*; Deveron or Doveran, *dobhran*, the diminutive of *dobhar*, water; Garbet, *garbh-ath*, “rough ford,” where the *th* has hardened in post-Gaelic times; Avachie, *allt bheithich*, “birken burn”; Broadland or Bordland (so Bordland and Borlum?), the steward’s or grange lands which supplied the table of the lord. Lastly, in Botarie, *both airidh*, “the bothy of the summer pasture,” which in the Retour of 1662 is given as Pittarie, Mr. Macdonald (herein differing from Mr. Johnston) thinks he has found an indication of the process “by which many of our ‘boths’ were changed into ‘pits.’”

A necessary part of the work has been to classify the systematic changes wrought by modern pronunciation. The elision of *l*; the hardening of *th* and *dh*; the change of the terminals *chd* and *cht* to *th* and to *t*; the addition of *d* to *n*, as in Tarland, Drumgowand, &c.; the alteration in various forms of the terminal *ach*; the substitution of *m* for *n* in the article, as in Auchmacoy; aspirated *c*, *ch*, turned to English *h*; *c* or *ch* to *guh* and *f*, as in Ordiquhill (pron. *Ordifull*), are among many variations which it is absolutely necessary to note.

On all these points, and some of less technical interest, Mr. Macdonald deserves attentive perusal, and we can but hope that both he and Mr. Johnston will pursue a line of investigation so essential to what on every ground, historical, linguistic, and patriotic, should prove a popular study.

Rambles through Japan without a Guide. By Albert Tracy. Illustrated. (Sampson Low & Co.)

THE merits of this little book are in inverse proportion to its modest pretensions. What Mr. Tracy desired to see was less the country of Japan than the people of that much-visited empire. And the better to effect his purpose he dispensed with guide or interpreter, thus getting rid of the main obstacle to a true understanding of the various types and individuals with whom he came into contact. No doubt the plan had its disadvantages, one being the faulty spelling of Japanese names; and none but superficial impressions could be gathered by a traveller whose knowledge of the language was con-

fined to a few conversational phrases. But at least the impressions were his, first hand, and not those of a professional showman. The result—it being premised that the observer has eyes and knows how to use them if his ears were comparatively useless, and possesses the faculty of recording his observations in lively and attractive language—is, perhaps, the most vivid and interesting picture of wayside life in Japan that has hitherto been limned. What will principally strike the reader who has had personal knowledge of old Japan is the extent to which the customs, costumes, and habits of the Tokugawa *jibun* still survive, almost unchanged, away from the great centres of population. Mr. Tracy’s experiences were mainly gathered in a journey he made from Tokio to Kioto by the hill-road through the Nakasendō or mid-mountain tract of old Japanese geography. Save that *jirikishas* or *kurumas* have replaced the *norimon* and *kago* of former days, and that no swaggering though picturesque *cortège* of daimio or *hatamoto* now lends the strange mediæval colour of its pageantry to the road, Mr. Tracy could scarcely have given a different account of his passage had he written it thirty years ago, when no thought of Europeanization had invaded the Japanese brain. All along the route the men still shaved their heads and wore their hair in queues; there was the old lack of chairs and tables; the *kuruma-ya* were as clever in their overcharges as the *ninsoku* under the Bakufu régime, the innkeepers as perplexed upon the knotty question of what items to put into the *tojin*’s bill, the children as full of affected alarm at his approach, the musumés as eager to scan the details of his dress and person. Even the pilgrims seem to have been as numerous, and as fervid or as lukewarm in their piety, as of old. The old courtesy, however, has sadly diminished. Under the Shoguns and long after the Restoration the *tojin* was not seldom greeted with opprobrious epithets (“stinking goat,” “hairy blackguard,” and the like) by rampant *samurai*, but he was not insulted by the deliberate and persistent ridicule which Mr. Tracy on several occasions had to encounter at the hands, or rather lips, of his native fellow travellers. He invents excuses, that had he been acquainted with the language he would scarcely have sought to make. Hardly anything is more absurd than to watch tourists smilingly shouting out “*Hei konnichi*” (good day) or “*Ohayo*” (good morning) in response to obscene and scurrilous jests.

Like most of the recording globe-trotters, Mr. Tracy is full of naïve wonder at the Japanese being able to perform the simplest operations. How long, he asks, would it take a “fair girl graduate” to learn how to wind silk from cocoons and weave the product into a yard of ribbon? Well, perhaps a week. He is on firmer ground when he views with apprehension the threatened absorption of cottage industry by huge manufacturing concerns. On the foreign question he is, of course, opposed to all Europe and America. “There is no blacker page in history than the exactions and cruelties practised against Japan by the diplomatic representatives of the nations called Christian.” Talk of this kind—there is not, fortunately, much of it in the book, where

the reflections are of much less value than the personal experiences—is simply nonsense. Great mistakes were made by the foreigner at the outset; but these were mainly due to an ignorance of Japan, which was an inevitable consequence of the isolation enforced upon the country by the Tokugawa Shoguns during two hundred and fifty years. It is equally absurd to trot out again for the *nth* time the extraordinary revelations of Lord Elgin’s journals, so difficult to reconcile with any honest execution of the duties he undertook. If those who rail against foreigners—to whom modern Japan owes everything, as old Japan did to the Chinese—would simply study the Blue-books and such works as the ‘*Kinsé Shiriaku*’ (‘Short History of Recent Times’), ‘*Genji Yume no Monogatari*’ (‘An Account of the Opening of Japan to Western Nations’), or the lately published and most excellent ‘*History of Thirty Years*,’ by a *ci-devant* Hatamoto (vassal of Shogun), Mr. Kimura Taishyu, where a number of original documents of great interest will be found—they would come to conclusions of historical accuracy and of a very different character.

Among the most interesting pages of the book are those devoted to a description of the author’s visit to Mount Koya, the scene of the meditations of the great teacher Kobo (Kobo Daishi), of whose life a short account is given, typical of Buddhist hagiology, so strangely resembling in common form and details the hagiology of the Roman Catholic Church. The Buddhism of Japan deserves investigation; what spirituality the most matter-of-fact people that ever lived could boast of is to be found almost exclusively in the works and productions of the Buddhist priesthood. With missionary effort the author is evidently in sympathy—rightly so, in the main—and he gives an interesting glimpse of the interior of a well-to-do native Christian household. Protestant Christianity seems to have a better chance of acceptance than either Roman Catholicism or the Greek faith. The latter is supported with Russian money, and Russia, now as eighty years ago, is the “spectre” of Japanese national policy, while the Catholics, though the number of their converts is greater, never ordain native priests; the aim of the Protestant missions, on the contrary, being to place “the work of evangelization as fast as possible in the hands of the Japanese themselves.”

Here we must close our account of this vivid and entertaining as well as truthful picture of the wayside folk and peasantry of Japan, of the latter of whom a capital woodcut on p. 114 reproduces a striking, but scarcely a common type.

The Captivi of Plautus. With Introduction and Notes by A. R. S. Hallidie. (Macmillan & Co.)

THIS is in many ways an excellent book. It makes no strong claim to originality, nor does it give evidence of specially profound study; but it is the work of a sound and competent scholar, dealing carefully with accessible materials, in order to produce an edition “in usum scholarum.” The few new suggestions, exegetical and critical, are marked by sobriety and good sense. The

difficult task of forming his text has been executed by the editor with good judgment. Of the original emendations (not many in number) some deserve much consideration; in particular *pectinem* (used as the name of a fish) for *pernam* in l. 850. The reading of the MSS. has been supposed by most editors to be wrong, because the word is followed by several names of fish in the description of a dinner. If the line is to be emended, the editor's suggestion is the best we have seen. But may not the tasty ham be meant for an appetizing *promulsis* or *gustatio* at the beginning of the dinner, corresponding to the *mollis caseus* at the end? It is, however, just possible that *pernam* is an error for *pernas*, seeing that *perna* occurs as the name of a shell-fish. The other parts of Mr. Hallidie's work are on a level with his treatment of the text. The introduction, explaining the versification of Plautus, is full, and the explanatory notes are carefully written. Only one portion of them, viz., the notes which venture on the perilous ground of etymology and comparative philology, show noticeable weakness. If such notes were to be included in the book at all, recourse should have been had to later and better authorities than those which have been consulted. As it is, we find views repeated which are not held by those who are now to the front in this department of study. Thus (note on l. 438) the idea that the passive infinitives ending in *-ier* contain the reflexive pronoun is quoted from Mr. Roby's Grammar. This theory has not withstood the attacks of criticism. Indeed, the problem of these passive infinitives is still so obscure that it is questionable whether any solution yet proposed is in place in a book intended for young students. The relations supposed to exist between *μιμᾶσθαι* and *imitari* (l. 39), *κόλαφος* and *alapa*, *augeo* and *autumnus* (hinted in the note on l. 195), *proelium* and *pro-ire* (l. 60), are very improbable; and the supposition that the first syllable of *i-lio* is an ablative from *is* (l. 506) is more than doubtful. The explanation of the form *duellum* in its relation to *bellum* (l. 68) contains a puzzling sentence: "For the interchange of *b* and *v* cf. *ambo ἀμφω*, *nubes νέφος*, *scribo γράφω*, *venio βαίνω*, *volo βοῦλομαι*, &c." How can the correspondence of Latin *v* with Greek *φ* illustrate "the interchange of *b* and *v*" in Latin? The phrase "interchange of *b* and *v*" is itself not very precise.

The usefulness of Mr. Hallidie's book will no doubt lead before long to a revised edition, in view of which we will offer a few suggestions as to scattered details. In l. 10 an emendation is adopted from Schoell which introduces the word *cette* in a parenthesis. The prologue to this particular play, though not Plautine, is built up so carefully on Plautine usage that it would hardly violate the rule that *cedo*, *cette* are followed by an object in the accusative or by a dependent construction. The true reading of the last word in l. 11 is probably *recedito*. Many passages in texts show how easily re-falls out; here it was afterwards replaced by another preposition. The word *amittere* in the sense of *dimittere* (l. 36) is not quite foreign to writers after Plautus, but occurs in Sallust and Varro; and it should be noted that in authors of the "classical period" *amittere* has distinctions of mean-

ing other than the meaning "to lose." The statement that "Augustan poets" avoid putting a word ending in a short vowel before another beginning with *sc*, *sp*, *sq*, *st* (critical note on l. 56), surely needs a little modification. The editor repeats (l. 153) an assertion still to be found in some good authorities (as Herzog's 'Staatsverfassung'), that *remittere exercitum* was a technical phrase for dismissing a meeting of the Comitia Centuriata. That this is an error has repeatedly been pointed out, by Mommsen among others. It is even doubtful whether the phrase *remittere exercitum* occurs in classical literature of disbanding an actual army. That the original construction of *opus est* was with the ablative (l. 159) is much open to question. The use of *arbitrari*, meaning "to be a witness" (l. 220), survived in post-Plautine times in the law courts, where witnesses regularly used the expression in giving evidence (Cicero pro Fonteio, § 19). A note on l. 268 contains a statement which a little verification would have shown to be incorrect, viz., that *utrum* and *nē* do not occur in the same interrogative clause in the Latin of the classical period. The usage really ranges through all Latin, though writers before Horace always separate the *utrum* from the *nē* by an intervening word or words. Therefore in Cicero de Inventione, i. § 51, *utrumne tuum* (still retained in Friedrich's edition) should be changed to *utrum tuumne*, the more so as the regular form of expression occurs twice in the immediate context. Other passages in Cicero where *utrumne* used to be read have been altered in the improved texts.

Mr. Hallidie's commentary on l. 408 repeats the current notion that the Roman master, when he freed his slave by the procedure *per vindictam*, gave him a slap in the face as a part of the ceremony. This conclusion has been mainly drawn from a passage in Phaedrus and another in Petronius, which are now admitted to have been misinterpreted. Apart from these, we have no evidence till we come to writers like Sidorius Apollinaris, Isidore, and Sedulius. If the supposed custom had existed in classical times it could hardly have escaped distinct notice in the literature. At l. 482 Cicero, Philip. ii. § 7, *cum uno gladiatore nequissimo*, is quoted in illustration of *unus* used as "an indefinite article." But clearly *uno* in that passage intensifies *nequissimo*, according to a common idiom; and in fact there is in Cicero no passage where *unus* is really the equivalent of an indefinite article. The quotation from Cicero, Div. ii. § 70, at l. 593 as containing the active form *insecto* is also mistaken; the word *insectans* there is of course the present participle of the deponent verb. The existence of the conjunction *ast* in the text of Cicero (l. 683), excepting in a few archaic legal phrases, is very doubtful. In l. 687, *periculo.....ponere*, the word *periculo* may well be ablative, not dative, "to place in danger," for which compare Virgil's "somno positae." It is implied in the note on l. 714 that *nē=nonne* does not occur in writers later than Plautus; it is really common. The phrase *eodem pacto ut for quo* (l. 778) should hardly be stamped as a colloquialism, considering the instances of *eodem modo ut* which are found in classical literature. The most esteemed writers on Roman numismatics hold that *libella* (l. 947) was never the name

of any coin actually minted. At l. 915 it might be observed that the Ambrosian MS. probably read *tegoribus*, not *tergoribus*, according to the indications afforded by Stude-mund's 'Apographum.'

The book has been corrected for press with care. We will conclude with a protest on a small matter of convenience. The numerous quotations from Cicero are given sometimes according to chapters, sometimes according to sections, sometimes according to both. The diversity is itself inconvenient, but when the reference is to a chapter only verification is made needlessly difficult. The section should in every case have been mentioned.

Through Famine-Stricken Russia. By W. Barnes Steveni. (Sampson Low & Co.)

THIS book is a reproduction of a series of articles upon the Russian famine which appeared in the *Daily Chronicle* during the early part of the year. Mr. Steveni is the resident St. Petersburg correspondent of that journal, and his long sojourn in Russia should have made him thoroughly familiar with the circumstances of Russian life. Nevertheless his book fails to give a general picture of the Russian famine, faithful and graphic as some of his descriptions of particular cases may be. He has also, through oversight or hurry, allowed himself to fall into a few errors which have the effect of absolutely misleading the reader. Thus, in speaking of Count Bobrinski's crusade against pothouses, he makes that public-spirited nobleman say:

"I have closed all the *kabaks* (*vodka* shops) on my estates, and prohibited the sale of vodka. As this proceeding does not prevent the peasants from going to the neighbouring villages outside my estate, and fuddling themselves with the noxious drink whenever I or my stewards do not happen to be on the spot to look after them, I have made it compulsory on any peasant who holds land from me to sign an agreement not to drink vodka. If he breaks this agreement he is evicted."

Count Bobrinski has the reputation, and deservedly so, of being one of the most truthful and honourable gentlemen in the whole of the Russian empire; hence it is difficult to understand how he could have made a statement so absolutely misleading. These words of the count's, printed without explanation or comment, convey the impression that the Russian land system does not differ materially from our own. As a matter of fact, it is absolutely different. No Russian peasant can be evicted from his land, no villages belong to feudal lords. The Russian villages are autonomous to a great extent, and their communal system of land tenure is the pride of all Slavophiles. The *Zemstvo*, or county council, has, indeed, the right to refuse spirit licences, but when these have once been granted no local magnate can cancel them at his will and pleasure. It is true that large estate owners let out their land for cultivation to individual wealthy peasants, and in some cases to entire communities; but as very few peasants can read or write, the documentary part of the transaction is generally a mere matter of form. Probably, if Mr. Steveni had explained the exceptional circumstances of the case, the suspicion to which Count Bobrinski's vera-

city is now exposed would have been removed, unless, indeed, Mr. Steveni misunderstood him. As the count speaks English perfectly and spends much of his time in England, it would be interesting to know how the mistake arose.

Apart from inaccuracies of this sort and a certain tendency to attribute the famine to intemperance—a somewhat superficial explanation—Mr. Steveni has produced several graphic pictures of peasant life. Unfortunately, he seems to labour under the belief that he is a humourist, a belief which is absolutely devoid of foundation. He therefore devotes entire chapters to deadly encounters with rats, humorous sufferings in railway carriages, and similar episodes, which Mark Twain might have rendered amusing, but in which Mr. Steveni fails to interest us.

We regret to find that Mr. Steveni should have thought it necessary to subject himself to various hardships by way of training for the famine, and sincerely hope that his health has not seriously suffered. He tells us, for instance, that "immediately on arriving at Moscow I made my way to the refreshment buffet, having eaten nothing since leaving St. Petersburg." This is curious, as the buffets with which the stations between the two Russian capitals are furnished are famous for their excellence. Indeed, Russian railways generally are celebrated for their good catering. The journey from St. Petersburg to Moscow occupies about twelve hours. But in another chapter Mr. Steveni hints at the real reason of his abstemiousness. "Anxious," he says, "to reduce the expenses of my tour, I put up for the night at a Russian hotel, instead of at an establishment to which foreigners usually resort." The style is somewhat obscure. What can this establishment thus darkly hinted at be? But the general sense is clear; it is evident that Mr. Steveni, like Mr. Gilpin, has a frugal mind. Why Mr. Steveni travelled in mid-winter in his dress clothes, as appears from another chapter, is, however, quite inconceivable. The journey was not a short one, for he states that the train arrived at its destination eight hours behind time! On this occasion Mr. Steveni travelled third class and gave the difference of the fare to the starving peasantry. Mr. Steveni's book is filled with pious reflections, and is written in an earnest tone, when he does not become humorous, which gives it an air of verisimilitude.

NOVELS OF THE WEEK.

For His Sake. By Mrs. Alexander. 3 vols. (White & Co.)

Bent on Conquest. By Edith Maud Nicholson. 3 vols. (Hurst & Blackett.)

The Marquis of Carabas: a Story of To-day. By Aaron Watson and Lillias Wassermann. 3 vols. (Chatto & Windus.)

A Highland Chronicle. By S. Bayard Dod. (Hutchinson & Co.)

The Fascinating Miss Lamarche. By C. C. Fernald. (Trischler.)

Ben Clough, and other Stories. By William Westall. (Ward & Downey.)

SELDOM or never, we would say, with the author's permission, have we known a nice bright girl like Sybil Carew so unfortunate

in fact or fiction in the matter of a grandmother. It is proverbial that grandparents as a rule are more indulgent to their grandchildren than to their immediate offspring, yet Mrs. Rashleigh positively hates her daughter's orphan child, and gives what affection she has to bestow to her stepson by a husband whom she never loved. It is no wonder that Sybil, more or less supported by her devoted friend, the crushed companion of Mrs. Rashleigh, should be impelled by the sheer dulness of existence to strike up an acquaintance which is destined to cost her dear. But she is no flirt, and when the time of trial comes is capable of a profound act of self-sacrifice. The story is well told, especially in the processes of growing love between Sybil and Brian Rashleigh. The incident of the runaway horse and Sybil's momentary interference, and what came of it, is very natural, and on the whole Mrs. Alexander's book is not below the average of conventional fiction.

Of all the thousands of worthy folk, old and young, male and female, subtle and simple, who in these days can write passable and readable romance, few are more difficult to class off-hand than the simple young authors of the gentler sex who sit down in a mood of invincible optimism to indite stories of handsome and irresistible young heroes. To load them with praise would be as barbarous as to crush them with censure; and a scrupulous critic—if the phrase may be permitted for argument's sake—cannot but hesitate to encourage mere sweet sentimentality in the absence of such weightier matters as originality, construction, and characterization. 'Bent on Conquest' is sweetly sentimental; the hero is so divinely beautiful that all the women fall in love with him, thereby annoying him vastly. It was not ever so, for up to a certain point of his life he was very bad indeed, and the poor women took their chance; but suddenly, in the teeth of several wise proverbs, he becomes wonderfully good, meets an innocent and remarkably susceptible girl, has the most romantic adventures with her, and plays the snowy-hearted mentor with a coolness which comes naturally (as Miss Nicholson believes) to his "pleasure-sated heart." Evidently this is a story in which sentimental readers will rejoice. Plot, characters, incidents, and diversions are all one woof of optimism.

'The Marquis of Carabas' has various claims to be called "a story of to-day." Many of the novel-reader's old familiar friends reappear in its pages—the dying peer, haunted by the dread of an unworthy successor; the successor in question, warned off the turf and disappearing from his native country; the next heir assuming the title and enjoying the estates, without any proof of the runaway's death; the runaway's son, ignorant of his rights and disporting himself as a Socialist in the streets of London; the American with a comical name who plays an important part in the affairs of the British aristocracy; with sundry others. The plot is a little old, and is not worked out with conspicuous ingenuity, but, on the other hand, the incidental scenes of the story are described with much good taste as well as strength. The Dean family, amongst whom the rightful heir has had

his upbringing, are on the whole a natural group; and Nelly, the intensely jealous and fiery young cripple, with her friends in the hospital, is a centre of attraction on her own account.

The success with which some half-dozen Scottish writers of our day have wielded their native tongue was sure to produce a crop of more or less distant imitators. 'A Highland Chronicle' is the production of a conscientious American amateur, in which the *lima labor* is used in vain to supply the want of real knowledge. The story is rather oddly localized on the river Don in Aberdeenshire, a purely Lowland district, while the characters, great and small, lairds and loons, alike speak a painstaking broad Scotch, which has no distinctive mark except that of the dictionary, and is marred by the use of English vulgarisms. "I ken *summat* besides rocks, and trees, and fallow deer," is the utterance of John Gunn of the Ross-shire (Sutherland?) clan, the typical Highlander of the book! But we can hardly hope for much fidelity to nature in a writer who believes that red-deer and grouse inhabit the woods. That the word "laird" is equivalent to "lord," that "my laird" is a form of address used to a judge or a nobleman, that the title "Freiceadan Dubh" or "Black Watch" was first given by English revilers to the gallant 42nd, are errors which seem venial in comparison. The mutiny of that regiment in 1743, and a shortened account of the leading incidents in the rising of 1745, provide the historical basis of the 'Chronicle,' which being not without scenes of adventure, more or less original, may pass on the other side of the Atlantic as a readable account of an exciting period in our annals. The idea of an estate being sold over the dinner table, with the ease of a pair of gloves, at the end of the seventeenth century, reflects a mean opinion of the obstructiveness of Scottish lawyers. But the Entail Act is evidently as unfamiliar a notion to the author as the existence of the Gaelic language.

Lizzie Marsh was a chorus-singer at the Arcadia Theatre before she became fascinating and Lamarche. The fascination, in the case of such young women as Mr. Fernald describes, is apt to be subjective rather than objective; and this particular Lizzie was not so much fascinating in herself as the accidental cause of a species of excitement in certain brainless bodies, which the author sees fit to describe as fascination. The turf is the principal arena in Mr. Fernald's story, which may be true to life so far as it goes, though it concerns itself very slightly with refined men and women.

Mr. Westall's stories are neither very exciting nor very uninteresting. There is little to be said about them either way, except that they will bear reading, and that they are as well worth reading as the average short story. 'Ben Clough' is an ingenious tale of sordid villainy; and indeed all the five tales are fairly well constructed, without making much pretence at originality.

RECENT VERSE.

Essays in Verse. By May Sinclair. (Kegan Paul & Co.)

Love in Earnest: Sonnets, Ballades, and Lyrics. By J. G. F. Nicholson. (Stock.)

Poems. By William Charles Scully. (Fisher Unwin.)

The Book of the Rhymers' Club. (Mathews & Lane.)

A Summer Night, and other Poems. By Graham R. Tomson. (Methuen & Co.)

Gather'd Fragments. Poems by Elwin Vyne. (Reeves & Turner.)

Quatrains, Life's Mystery, and other Poems. By W. Wilsey Martin. (Mathews & Lane.)

From the Asolan Hills: a Poem. By Eugene Benson. (Same publishers.)

THE first of Miss May Sinclair's 'Essays in Verse' is a "Philosophical Dialogue" in which the philosophies put into the mouths of five dull disputants are thin and threadbare, as if from text-book epitomes, and the arguments and illustrations are no other than what have been hackneyed, to almost meaninglessness, in the service of their respective schools. If this essay had been written in prose, as such essays should be, its writer—unless very juvenile—must have perceived its superficiality and want of original thought, and would, it must be supposed, have preferred suppressing it and waiting to produce some abler treatise on philosophic themes. But the disguise of measured lines has deceived her as much as to the philosophy as it has as to the poetry of her essay—'Guyon' by name. The second essay, 'Two Studies from the Life of Goethe,' is in two soliloquies: the first, and much the longer, is the startlingly ambitious effort to present Goethe, on the text of his love-story with Frederike eight years before, intently analyzing his own intellectual and moral nature and baring his soul to himself—an effort as to which "*non ragionam*": the second soliloquy is dated seven years earlier than the first, and is Frederike's expression of love-lorn grief and of excuse for Goethe:—

He was too great
For me. I should have known it, let him go
Before it came to this.

Frederike's monologue is, as might be foreseen, less unsuccessful than Goethe's; the simplicity and quiet pathos of the theme have a poetry in themselves, and Miss Sinclair has treated it simply: indeed, because of its simplicity it might fairly be called a poem if it were not for the bane of disturbing versification. It is, like Goethe's monologue and the philosophical dialogue, in blank verse; and Miss Sinclair is one of those prosaic metrists, fortunately now rare, who treat blank verse as an arrangement for getting words into lines, with the privilege to the arranger of beginning and ending the lines anywhere the words will measure in. 'Margery,' last of the contents, has the advantage of not being in blank verse—with the exception, however, of two bits, in one of which, called an Introduction, the blank verse has little resemblance to that of the preceding essays and much of it is good. This is the more fortunate that the Introduction contains a noteworthy description of the Cambridgeshire fens—a description that gives grounds for thinking, what the pieces already spoken of leave very dubious, that Miss Sinclair has poetic possibilities among her evidently high intellectual gifts. There are portions of 'Margery' which continue this impression, although 'Margery,' a collection of lyrical pieces to shape a story, as Lord Tennyson's 'Maud' is shaped, is (unintentionally no doubt) so reminiscent of 'Maud' that it cannot be taken as betokening what it might betoken if its origin were quite independent. 'Margery' is inartistically put together—some of its fragments, including the Introduction, are irrelevant and seem to have been inserted merely to find a place for them; it ceases with sudden impotence, leaving its story untold and scarcely at all suggested; and, en-

deavouring to supply the deficiency by the poor old device of an after-many-years epilogue, it appends as "Conclusion" a moralizing soliloquy which has barely an inferential connexion with the earlier records of the poem and does not in itself convey the story to which we must, by guesswork, suppose it to refer. Yet there are indications, and some fulfillments, in 'Margery' which make it impossible to read it and not wish that Miss Sinclair would, reserving disquisitions and expositions for treatment in prose, write verse in which she could give free play to all the true poetic instinct she may possess.

The most important part of Mr. Nicholson's volume, 'Love in Earnest,' is that from which it takes its name—a sequence of fifty sonnets, oddly described as "in the second person." Fortunately they are, in spite of the description, written according to the customs of grammatical construction. They are love sonnets, addressed by the man to the woman, and they tell—somewhat vaguely, but that is not a fault in a kind of poetry which should be emotional, not narrative—the story of his love's continued pleading, of its acceptance at length, of "drifting apart" and estrangement and reconciliation, of the happiest mutual confidence, and then of a lifelong separation by some untoward fate. They are, as to form, well executed; and in poetic expression they possess considerable merit. In some "Sonnets for Pictures" at the end of the book Mr. Nicholson has made the mistake of trying to add development of his own to creations so familiar to us all and so out of reach of a lesser writer as those of Shakespeare. The painter might fitly take inspiration from Shakespeare, and put on his canvas a Lady Macbeth and an Ophelia; it is a very different matter when a writer thinks to illustrate the painter's work by supplementing Shakespeare with a new soliloquy in unconsciousness for Lady Macbeth and with self-revealings of her dawning madness for Ophelia. A kindred mistake pervades the series of "Sonnets on the Ancient Mariner"—expiations on what Coleridge has told with quick firm touches, a thought or a picture in one word. Mr. Nicholson's lyrical productions, taken generally, are not so good as his sonnets are on the whole; though many run agreeably. But how did he come to rhyme *calmer* to *charmer*?

Mr. Scully takes for motto on his title-page a phrase from Ibsen,

I got the gift of sorrow,
And I was a skald,

yet a perusal of the book by no means leaves an impression of sorrow as its key-note. Several of the poems, it is true, refer to a beloved woman of whom death has bereaved the speaker; but these, in spite of the mournfulness of loss that breaks in upon them, are not so much laments as happy memories so abiding as almost to make a Present. This continuance in some survivors' inmost lives of the companionship that used to be is one of the deep truths of the human heart, and not the most passionate outburst of distress, and not the dearest bitterness at fate, could express such undying affection for the dead as that which makes Mr. Scully's mourner be with his lost one and hear "the ripple of her talk" where they used to walk together years before, and have his haunt, not by her grave, but at the summer-house he built for her, where

—now, when springtime wakes the world,
I watch each slowly opening flower
That, from the silence where she dwells,
Comes with fresh tidings to her bower.

But such mourning is not desolate; and the expression of it in verse does not belong to "the gift of sorrow" so much as to the gift of happiness. Comparatively few of Mr. Scully's poems, however, are on the bereavement theme; the others but rarely have anything of the minor key introduced—and Mr. Scully is at his best without it. The least satisfactory part of the volume is "Poems relating to South

Africa." These, as a rule, are without poetic attractiveness, and in other respects—especially in their descriptions of scenery—are commonplace and unsuggestive. One story, 'The Witch-Doctor,' is a peculiarly disagreeable production, consisting of details of repulsive torture told in a comic and even bantering style. A series of sonnets called "From the German" has merit.

The Rhymers' Club has put forth a volume of samples of its members' contributions. And, the members, a round dozen, being each and all skilled with more than the "prentice-hand" one of their number, in a 'Song of the Song-smiths,' modestly attributes to them, the volume presents verse of excellent quality. 'The Book of the Rhymers' Club' has not excluded poems which have been published in magazines and, in the case of two contributions of Dr. Todhunter's, in works of the contributor's own; and it is not likely to monopolize any of its contents. We may rely on all the poems having their places in future volumes of their writers individually.

To judge from her poems collected under the title 'A Summer Night'—that of the first in the list of contents—Mrs. Tomson has not a wide range of poetic thought. But, within her range, she has an earnestness of feeling which gives her verse true poetic life, and she has execution which, if it were not for some ugly unnatural words (like her "crepuscle"), would habitually have the charm of ease and finish. She has a pet theme, not common in verse—gas-lights. In one place she happily describes them as

Deep yellow jewels set
In dusky air.

In another she, less happily, tells us

The yellow light of an opal
On the white-walled houses dies
The roadway beyond my garden
It glimmers with golden eyes.

In another it is

—the jewelled gloom,
Splendours of opal and amber.

In another she has it of the streets in the "spangled dusk" that there are

Beauty and Grime, indifferent, side by side;
Surfeit and Thirst, Endeavour and Despair,
Content and Squalor, Lassitude and Care,
All in the golden lamplight glorified.

Over and over again in her poems comes this joy in the colour and glow of lamps. The summer night's dreaming musings are in a garden; but it is a London garden: the streets enclose it and they are never forgotten. The message of the "dreaming air" in the leafy solitude is

One with the message of the passing feet,
The roll of wheels, the murmur of the street.

This mixture gives a distinctive character to much of Mrs. Tomson's poetry.

'Gather'd Fragments,' a small volume written under what is probably the pseudonym Elwin Vyne, is remarkable for its exalted language—a kind of poetic English-Latin special to the writer. The poems are few—only twenty-four—and none is long. 'The Three Periods,' the first after a dedicatory stanza, closes with the following description of old age:—

O, Grey Head lighting yellowly
From out thy juvenescency;
Time hath to thee a rifter been,
Piercing thee invulnerably:
Until thou deignest scarce to scan
Night's constellate multitude,—
In uncontract similitude,—
Of planetary Eyes that sweep
From a forbode and freezing sky,
Down upon Earth and thee, an Eye
In sequent glance, transparently.

A monologue, 'Rhodope,' the most conspicuous poem in the book, in which Mr. Elwin Vyne has given his imagination the reins, seems to be a fragment from a longer work. It begins:

I cried, I shriek'd, I,—Rhodope,—
Rack'd exclamations seiz'd the senseless air;
The heavens were mov'd and all the high hills plain'd,
And all the boulder'd bases of the rocks,
Catching the sheeted sorrow, mourn'd infecting,
Shrieking in consonance and festering grief,
Shriek'd adulation to the obscene night,
Forgetting constancy, by it forgot.

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Resilient Pan, smitten with struck amaze,
Back startled,—with'd in intermittent terror;
Dryads and Hamadryads, from tree-boles,—
There pent,—outpeep'd, arc fretting to divine
What horrent cause of tribulation, vex'd,
Their homes assaulted thus with intern'd yell;
While horned Satyrs, mooster'd dance pursuing,
Their eyes carbuncled as with vellum'd flame
Hearing such savage outburst, rude, stop'd dead—
Their mashing hoof-stamp denting deep the soil
Whereon they stood in occultating dread,
From off their fillet heads vine-chaplets tearing—
Panting to learn, what molestating din,
Imprecate, pierc'd their imbrute being's core;
While still the cry went on, insurgent flew
In gathering force, fineing obliterate wrong.

This description of an "insufferable riot" continues with like strenuousness for a page or two, and concludes with a day-break of sweetness which

— in Perduellon majesty
We two behold.

The "Quatrains" of Mr. Wilsey Martin vary much in quality. It is difficult to see how any one with any notion of what poetry is, and with any sense of humour, could in solemn earnest write this quatrain:—

PAOLO E FRANCESCA.

As molecules together whirl in fire,
When oxygen woos carbon into flame;
Some frail affinities, with scorch of shame,
Whirl down the winds of passion and desire.

Yet from the same hand comes this gracious and graceful pair of quatrains:—

LITTLE MYRTLE.

I.
Dear rosy Question! babbling all the day!
"What am I? Tell me, ere my curls grow old;"
I cannot tell thee, Sweet! though curls be gold,
And thou reiterate till they be grey.

II.
O little Query! like a rose unblown,
With folded mysteries in pink and white—
Love cannot solve thee in thy morning light,
Nor Wisdom when thee three-score years have flown.

And this:—

PLEASURE.

Then Pleasure came; keen lightnings round her play'd,
And in her lustrous eyes. Her lips were flame.
"Stay with me evermore," I sighed. "My name,"
She said, "Would not be 'Pleasure' if I say'd."

'Life's Mystery,' a series of short poems—or, rather, chapters of a poem—in quatrain measure, attempts, with a good amount of success, to blend scientific doctrine, and even scientific nomenclature, with poetic euphuism and sentiment. It starts with a very good verse:—

What is the bond between me and this flower?
We breathe the common air, we smile and weep;
Earth's bosom takes us both when our last sleep
Falls on the lids that open'd for an hour.

And there are other verses as good.

Mr. Eugene Benson has "tried to imagine the aspect of the old Venetian land, seeing it from Asolo as it must have appeared in the very dawn of its history," and has "seemed to behold the whole drama of the story of the *Marca Trivigiana*, of the ancient Veneto, or Venetian mainland, in the very places it once filled with life": "the purpose and the argument" of his pages is, he says, to express something of all this. This statement of his attempt explains as much as any criticism could do that his 'From the Asolan Hills' cannot be truly a poem. The project is as alien to the nature of poetry as that of a traveller's guide in verse would be. It could be well carried out in a series of prose sketches. In that form disquisitions on the lost Amber Isles, on whether the Adriatic possessed red amber, on the identification of the Eridanus with the Po, on "Mythic Italy," "Famous Cities seen from Asolo," the Venetian Plain, renowned painters and renowned poets, and other various topics, descriptions of historic places, tales of mediæval loves and tragedies, of Ecclin, of "rare Cunizza," Cecilia and San Pier, and many another personage of strange fortunes, might make a 'From the Asolan Hills' volume of deep and poetic interest. It is difficult to imagine anybody with the real poetic sense undertaking an epitome of such themes in a poem. Mr. Benson's versification is very far from perfect:—

Soon the birds will begin their jocund strife.
O swiftly comes the spring gaily to dress.
Thou hast come with the Dawn, in light; to lure.

Her herald blew, the wind, joyously fleet.
Spring lightly stepped over the earth all brown.
For with sighs Spring comes: moans melodious.
And one oft presses the last from its mead.

All occur in no greater a space than the first three pages, in which there are but sixty-six lines in all: and in the same pages are many lines which can only be read into metre by much making shift.

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

Studies in Mohammedanism. By J. J. Pool. (Constable & Co.)—This compilation consists of forty short essays, derived from obvious sources, on the chief features of the Mohammedan religion, social system, superstitions, and the like, together with brief sketches of the principal divisions of Mohammedan history. The historical chapters are sandwiched between essays on doctrine and morals, like the jam which conceals the medicinal powder; though which is to be considered the jam we do not pretend to decide. The treatment is sketchy, and the style somewhat colloquial, while the matter is mainly taken from well-known books. Gibbon, Sale, Muir, Mrs. Mir Hasan Aly, and others are frequently quoted; and no writer has apparently been more serviceable to the author than his namesake, plus an e, Mr. Lane-Poole, whose works on the 'Barbary Corsairs,' the 'Moors in Spain,' and 'Turkey,' and 'Studies in a Mosque' have practically furnished the greater part of Mr. J. J. Pool's chaps. ix., xv., xix., xxxii., and xxxviii., besides scattered extracts. In boiling down a standard book into a rather invertebrate chapter, Mr. J. J. Pool conscientiously inserts some such phrase as "Mr. So-and-so says in his charming book on this or that"; and having thus acknowledged the source of a single sentence, he considers the debt acquitted, and proceeds to annex paragraph after paragraph without further mention of the writer's name. We do not blame him, however, for borrowing materials for his compilation, for it is clear that he is no Oriental scholar himself; but we object to quotations in inverted commas without references to their sources. Inverted commas do not condone wholesale borrowing. Each quotation ought to be authenticated by a reference at the foot of the page. It does not look pretty, but it is more honest. The substance of Mr. J. J. Pool's book consists of well-worn material. He enounces many irreproachable opinions and established facts about Mohammed, the Korân, mosques, women, Khalifs, parables, miracles, fakirs, &c. His point of view is rational, if commonplace and rather "goody-goody"; and his facts are drawn as a rule from trustworthy authorities, though some of these are a trifle antiquated. It is amusing to trace the source of his several chapters by the various modes of transliterating Arabic names, though we should feel more comfortable in our minds if we could convince ourselves that the author knew Arabic himself. His historical information appears to have been specially "got-up" for the purpose of making his book, and though fairly accurate, it is not to be implicitly trusted. For example, the remark that the walls of mosques are "perfectly bare" will be at once contradicted by any visitor to Cairo, Damascus, Cordova, or Constantinople. To say that a mosque has generally no windows is a mistake; windows form a singularly beautiful feature in many mosques. But to one who, like Mr. J. J. Pool, calls the Hasanayn at Cairo "magnificent," all things are possible in art criticism. The custom of veiling women in India is certainly older than Tamerlane, notwithstanding Mr. J. J. Pool's unauthenticated quotation. The enthusiastic eulogy of Shah Jahân's daughter on pp. 49, 50, would be considerably modified if the writer had made any study of Moghul history. It is a trifle perplexing to be told that "hundreds of his [the Khalif 'Omar's] successors" died violent

deaths, for even if we include the Ottoman Sultans, the list of orthodox Khalifs does not nearly run to one hundred. By the way, the earlier Omniad princes of Cordova were not styled Khalifs: 'Abd-er-Rahmân III. was the first to adopt the spiritual title. It is not quite obvious whence Mr. J. J. Pool borrowed his account of the Fatimites, but whatever the source was, it is morally certain that the king of Jerusalem was not there named "Amalric" (pp. 167-8). In the same paragraph Nûr-ed-din is called the "uncle of Saladin," whereas he was no relation. The uncultured reader, for whom this book is probably designed, will hardly realize that "Sonnites" and "Sunis" are the same word. A singularly condensed abstract of Egyptian history from the twelfth to the nineteenth century is given in seventeen lines (pp. 168-9), from which the sort of person who is intended to read this book will gather that the fall of the Mamlûks was but little later than that of the Fatimites (instead of three hundred years afterwards), and that all this time the country was "tributary to the Abbasides," who came to an end, as far as tribute went, when the Mamlûks had hardly established their power. The sketch of the Ottoman Turks, borrowed from the "Story of the Nations" series, contains more than one statement not to be traced in the original: the battle of Kosovo (not Kosoro) was fought under Murâd, not Bayezid; and we do not believe that Christians are ever admitted into the mosque of Eyûb to see the relics of the Prophet (p. 220). Queen Nur-Jahân's "image" never appeared on any Moghul coin (p. 277); but her husband's did. The chapter on the Barbary Corsairs is entirely taken from Mr. Lane-Poole's book, but the compiler has succeeded in importing a few errors. To speak of "the advent of the Moors on the Barbary coast in the seventeenth century" gives the false impression that no Moors had ever been there before. The chapter on Mohammedan literature is ludicrously vague, scrappy, and uninforming. In short, Mr. J. J. Pool's book is not very skilfully compiled from a number of accessible works, and the only original parts of it are the author's personal recollections of scenes and customs in India (though he talks a deal of rubbish about opium smoking), and his account of the Mohammedan church which Mr. Quilliam has founded at Liverpool, with a following of fifty-two members, including fourteen ladies. Mr. Pool does not think much of Mr. Quilliam's teaching and has no belief in the future of Islam in England. There we are disposed to agree with him; but we hope that next time he writes he will choose a subject he knows at first hand, instead of condensing other people's books.

The Catholics of the East and his People: Five Years' Work in the "Archbishop of Canterbury's Assyrian Mission." By A. J. Maclean, M.A., and W. H. Browne, LL.M. With Map. (Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge.)—This is a popular account of the "Church of the East," or Nestorians of Kurdistan and North-West Persia, written by two of the missionaries of the Archbishop of Canterbury's Assyrian Mission. They write pleasantly enough of the life of the mountaineers of Kurdistan and the pastoral Ashiret country, their manners and customs, clergy, ritual, and education, and their relations with the Persian and Turkish Governments. There is little, perhaps, in the description that will be new to students of the subject, but the large amount of trustworthy information compressed into this small volume will be appreciated by the general class of readers whom the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge specially addresses. The writers have a fair share of humour, and tell some amusing stories. We read how, when the Catholics, or Patriarch, was once being carried across a ford on the shoulders of one of his flock, the bearer suddenly stopped in mid-stream and threatened to drop the holy father into deep snow-water unless he

granted him a dispensation to smoke his pipe even on Lent mornings. The Catholics was not made of martyrs' stuff, and gave in. A characteristic domestic trait is illustrated by the following anecdote:—

"The Mission deacons—most of them married men—were shown a picture in the *Graphic* of the Prince of Wales kissing the hand of the German Empress at Berlin, and with one voice exclaimed, 'Nothing should ever induce me to kiss a woman's hand.' One man, who was really fond of his wife, said, 'If one were forbidden, as in Europe, to beat one's wife when she does wrong, it is better not to be married at all.'"

Mrs. Mona Caird is clearly wanted in Adharbijan. We can recommend this little book as a popular and readable account of an interesting people.

Pride and Prejudice forms the third and fourth volumes of Messrs. Dent & Co.'s "Aldine" edition of Jane Austen's novels, which continues to maintain its character for dainty production and pleasing illustrations. Among these, 'Mr. Collins Proposes' tells its story as effectively as any.

MR. RALPH H. CAINE in his *Love Songs of English Poets, 1500-1800* (Heinemann), has given an admirable selection. He apologizes for the exclusion of many of the minor poets between Herrick and Cowper. But not much of any excellence will be missed, though names like Crashaw and Marvell must have been hard to exclude. Fugitive pieces to which no names could be attached are very numerous, and though not here given are, says the editor, many of them well worthy of preservation.

MESSRS. WARNE & Co. have sent us a new edition, in the "Albion" series, of Whittier's poems. Notes, indices, and typography combine to make it an acceptable presentment of the works of the lamented poet.

We have on our table *The Huguenots in the Seventeenth Century*, by C. Tylor (Simpkin),—*A. Thiers*, by P. de Rémusat, translated by M. B. Anderson (Fisher Unwin),—*Walt Whitman*, by W. Clarke (Sonnenschein),—*A Short History of the Queen's Reign*, by R. Johnston (Simpkin),—*Handbook on Mashonaland* (Eglington),—*Toil and Travel*, by J. MacGregor, M.D. (Fisher Unwin),—*About Ulster*, by E. Lynn Linton (Methuen),—*Men of Might*, by A. C. Benson and H. F. W. Tatham (Arnold),—*Cæsar: The Gallic War*, Book IV., edited by M. J. F. Brackenbury (Percival),—*The New Code, 1892-3*, by T. E. Heller (Bemrose),—*Latin Clause Construction*, by F. Ritchie (Longmans),—*Prescott's History of the Conquest of Mexico*, with Introduction and Notes by R. P. Horsley, Vol. II. (Percival),—*An Essay on Analogy in Syntax*, by G. Middleton (Longmans),—*Key to Arithmetic for Beginners*, by J. Brooksmith and E. J. Brooksmith (Macmillan),—*Solutions of the Examples in a Treatise on Elementary Dynamics*, by S. L. Loney (Cambridge University Press),—*How to be Married in all Ways and Every-where*, by T. Moore (Griffith & Farran),—*A Short Treatise on Labour, Strikes, Liberty, Religious, Political, and General Public Questions*, by W. E. Koehs (Cardiff, W. Jones),—*Insurance*, by C. F. Morrell (A. & C. Black),—*Four National Exhibitions in London*, by C. Lowe (Fisher Unwin),—*Outlines of Insanity*, by F. H. Walsley, M.D. (The Scientific Press),—*Transactions of the Sanitary Institute*, Vol. XII. (Stanford),—*Digestion and Diet rationally Discussed*, by T. Dutton, M.D. (Kimpton),—*Country Thoughts for Town Readers*, by Kinard B. Baghot de la Bere (Simpkin),—*Sheep-Head and Trotters*, by J. Lumsden (Haddington, Sinclair),—*The Haunted House of Chilka*, by Col. C. F. J. Skottowe (Digby & Long),—*Nightmare Tales*, by H. P. Blavatsky (Theosophical Publishing Society),—*Life Threads*, by K. E. V. (Digby & Long),—*Ronald, the Fusilier*, by F. M. Peacock (Gale & Polden),—*Tales of the Thames*, by W. B. Maxwell (Simpkin),—*A Debt of Honour*, by Mabel Collins (Eden, Remington & Co.),—*Sir*

Vinegar's Venture, by J. Tweeddale (Digby & Long),—*The Power of an Eye*, by Mrs. Frank St. Clair Grimwood (F. V. White),—*The Effacement of Oriel Penhaligon*, by E. M. Hewitt (Low),—*A Desperate Dilemma*, by M. Danvers (Diprose & Bateman),—*Six Civil Servants We!* by F. St. John Morrow (Skeffington),—*Must I Tell?* by G. Gordon (Paterson),—*Patricius: his Religious Progress* (Williams & Norgate),—*A Doll's House*, by H. Ibsen, translated by W. Archer (Scott),—*Seeking and Finding* (Wells Gardner & Co.),—*Looking for the Church*, edited by the late Rev. Francis Kitchen (Masters),—*Thou, when thou Prayest*, by the Rev. F. F. Walrond (S.P.C.K.),—*The Gospel of the Future*, by a Parish Priest (Griffith & Farran),—*How to Study the Bible*, by the Rev. F. Relton (S.P.C.K.),—*Sound Doctrine: a Commentary on the Articles of the Faith of the Presbyterian Church of England*, by the Rev. D. Fraser, D.D. (14, Paternoster Square),—*Essays and Sermons*, by the late W. Robertson (Blackwood),—*Blessed Louis Marie Grignon de Montfort*, by a Secular Priest, 2 vols. (Art and Book Co.),—*Collection des Classiques Populaires: Racine*, by Paul Monceaux; *Thiers*, by E. Zévort; *Molière*, by C. Normand (Paris, Lecène & Oudin),—*Le Georgiche di P. Virgilio Marone*, edited by V. Chiodi (Cosenza, Corone),—*Falbs kritische Tage*, by Dr. J. M. Pernter (Berlin, Paetel),—and *L'Arbitrage international*, by F. Dreyfus (Paris, Lévy). Among New Editions we have *Walks in Epping Forest*, by P. Lindley (30, Fleet Street),—*The Threshold of Science*, by C. R. A. Wright (Griffin),—*Eastern Geography*, by Prof. A. H. Keane (Stanford),—*The Citizen Reader*, by H. O. Arnold-Forster (Cassell),—*Grammar and Logic in the Nineteenth Century*, by J. W. F. Rogers (Simpkin),—and *Selections from Plato*, edited by T. W. Rolleston (Scott).

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

ENGLISH.

Theology.

Moeller's (Dr. W.) *History of the Christian Church*, A.D. 1-600, trans. by A. Rutherford, 8vo. 15/6 cl.
Parker's (J.) *The People's Bible: Vol. 17, Hosea-Malachi*, 8/

Fine Art.

Nisbet's (H.) *Where Art Begins*, illustrated, royal 16mo. 7/6
Poetry and the Drama.
Abbotsford Series of Scottish Poets: *Scottish Poetry of the Sixteenth Century*, cr. 8vo. 3/6 cl.
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History and Biography.

Andrews's (W.) *Bygone England*, Social Studies in its Historic Byways, 8vo. 6/ cl.
Garnier's (R. M.) *History of the English Landed Interest*, 8vo. 10/6 cl.
Gossip of the Century, Personal and Traditional Memories, by Author of 'Flemish Interiors,' 2 vols. royal 8vo. 42/

Geography and Travel.

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Low's (W. H.) *The English Language, its History and Structure*, cr. 8vo. 3/6 cl.

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FOREIGN.

Theology.

Beyschlag (W.) *Neutestamentliche Theologie*, Vol. 2, 10m.
Grünhut (L.) *Kritische Untersuchung d. Midrasch Kohelet Rabba*, Part 1, 1m. 50.

Fine Art.

Lhomme (F.) *Charlet*, illustrated, 4fr.

Drama.

Dumas (Alex. fils.) *Théâtre complet*, Vol. 7, 3fr. 50.

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History and Biography.

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Foussier (E.) *Sièges modernes*, 50fr.
Guiraud (J.) *et Cadier (L.) Les Registres de Grégoire X. et de Jean XXI. (1271-1277)*, Part 1, 8fr. 40.
Marieourt (Baron de) *Casquettes blanches et Croix-rouge, Souvenirs de 1870*, 3fr. 50.
Mommens (Th.) *Monumenta Germanie Historica inde ab a. D. usque ad a. MD.* Vol. 1, 26m.
Renan (E.) *Histoire du Peuple d'Israël*, Vol. 4, 7fr. 50.
Tocqueville (Comte A. de) *Souvenirs*, 7fr. 50.

Bibliography.

Labande (L. H.) *Catalogue sommaire des Manuscrits de la Bibliothèque d'Avignon*, 7fr. 50.

Philology.

Brugmann (K.) *Grundriss der vergleichenden Grammatik der indogermanischen Sprachen*, Vol. 2, Div. 2, Part 2, 14m.
Crusius (O.) *Heronde Mimambi*, 2m. 40.
Hulsen (Ch.) *Das Forum Romanum*, 2m.
Ihm (M.) *Pelagonii Artis Veterinariae quæ extant*, 2m. 40.
Kalbfleisch (K.) *In Galeni de Placitis Hippocratis et Platonis Libros Observationes Criticæ*, 2m.
Mayhoff (C.) *Pinii Secundi Naturalis Historie Libri XXXVII.*, Vol. 3, 4m.
Prelwitz (W.) *Etymologisches Wörterbuch der Griechischen Sprache*, 5m.

Science.

Sciences biologiques (Les) à la Fin du XIX. Siècle, edited by R. Blanchard and others, 32fr.

General Literature.

Le Fèvre-Deumier (J.) *Entretiens sur l'Immortalité de l'Âme*, 5fr.
Titeux (E.) *Historiques et Uniformes de l'Armée française: Part I. Premier Régiment de Cuirassiers*, 2fr.

THE NINTH CONGRESS OF ORIENTALISTS.

THE present week has seen the opening, under most favourable auguries, of the above Congress. The members assembled in an informal manner on Sunday evening at the Hôtel Métropole, where they were received by Lord Northbrook and the committee. The formal opening took place on Monday at the appointed seat of the Congress, the London University building, in Burlington House.

Here, in the regrettable absence of the royal patrons, Lord Northbrook took the chair, and called on the President-elect, Prof. Max Müller, to deliver his inaugural address. This consisted in the main of a brilliant review of the progress of Oriental studies, with especial reference to the position and duties of England with regard thereto. It was, of course, listened to with great attention, but its very considerable length formed a new feature in the usage of the Congress, which, it may be hoped, will not form a precedent. After speeches (also somewhat extended) from Dr. Bühler, of Vienna, and Conte de Gubernatis, and the appointment of a committee for a revision of statutes, the proceedings terminated.

In the afternoon the sections elected officers, and several presidential addresses were delivered. These form a somewhat new feature, probably modelled on the practice of the British Association and similar bodies. Hitherto the presidents of sections in this Congress have usually contented themselves with a brief acknowledg-

ment of the choice of their sections. The present programme, however, gave opportunity for several interesting discourses, the only one delivered on Monday being from Sir R. West, in the Indian Section.

On Tuesday several addresses of importance were given. We may refer at present only to that of Prof. Cowell, on opening the Aryan Section, which treated of the progress of Indian studies with respect to the historical identity of authors. After a communication from Dr. Kielhorn on the grammatical researches of the great English pioneer of Sanskrit study, H. T. Colebrooke, the section united with the Indian Section, and the adjourned discussion on Sir R. West's address was commenced by some weighty remarks from Profs. Bühler and Cowell, both old educational officers in India, on the duty of the Indian Government with respect to the endowment of research in colleges.

The remainder of Tuesday's work, including the account of Mr. Hechler's very notable discovery in Old Testament literature, must be reserved for our next issue.

136, Bishop's Road, Fulham, Sept. 5, 1892.

IN Prof. Max Müller's presidential address to-day, at the opening of the Ninth International Congress of Orientalists, he referred to a theory which I have been maintaining for the last twelve years (in more than thirty articles, pamphlets, and books), and which has found lately a further supporter in Rev. Charles J. Ball from a somewhat different point of view. It has also received the complete approbation of the leading scholars in Sinology and Assyriology. The theory is to the effect that the early written characters and civilization of the Chinese were derived from ancient Babylonia and Elam.

The President, in the Printed copy of his address issued at the end of the meeting, says that I "think it possible to show that the oldest cuneiform letters.....owed their first origin to China." The reasoning he founds on this is sound enough, but as I have never advanced such a groundless theory, and as, on the contrary, my views make Babylonia the ultimate fountain-head of the civilization of the Middle Kingdom, the arguments of the learned professor fall to the ground so far as my own researches are concerned.

TERRIEN DE LACOUPERIE.

TWO CHAUCER WORDS.

I BEG leave to say that Mr. Ellis is quite right in supposing that the correct reading in Chaucer, 'Cant. Tales,' A 3782, is certainly *Ey, Cristes foo!* This is the reading of the MSS.; the reading *fote*, a bad spelling of *foot*, is that of the black-letter editions; though *fo* is corrected to *fote*, in a late hand, in the Harl. MS.

But I do not think that *Cristes foo* means the devil in this connexion. No such periphrasis is known to swearers. A man who is out of temper expresses the devil's name without any phrase.

I have no doubt that *Cristes foo* is a mere euphemism for 'Christ's foot.' I regret to say we have it, on the strongest evidence, that our ancestors swore by every member in the sacred body; 'sfoot' is the oath of Thersites in Shakespeare, and is common in our dramatists. The tendency to render oaths unmeaning is well known, and needs no illustration.

I should have been only too glad to find any new light shed upon *vitremyte*; but I regret to say that the proposed explanation is impossible. Mr. Ellis cannot, perhaps, be expected to know the intricacies of phonetics; but I may be allowed to say that the *F. muid* (which is merely the Lat. *modius*) could never have produced *myte*, for two reasons. The first is, that *vi* is quite a distinct vowel from long *i*; and the second is, that the final *d* in *muid*, which was lost in pronunciation even before 1400, could not have given a final *t*, still less a final *t*

followed by a sonant *e*; for *myte* is dissyllabic and rhymes with *quyte*, an infinitive mood. The words *muid* and *my-te* have nothing in common but initial *m*; that is, they are no more connected than *mad* is with *mate*.

Nor will the sense suit. The *F. muid* was merely a bushel measure, not a jar. And, further, the suggestion rests on the proposed emendation of *bere* for *were*. But the reading *bere* is out of the question. It rests merely on a mistake in the Petworth MS., the scribe of which actually saw that it would not do to repeat *bere*, *bar*, and *bere* in three successive lines, so he altered the latter *bere* (where it is the right reading) to *bye*! Unquestionably the right reading is *were*, as in all other MSS. and in all editions. I do not think it makes sense to say that Zenobia used to wear a glazed jar on her head; yet *wear*, and that only, is the true reading. I believe my old solution gives the right sense, and that *vitremyte* means "a glazed cap," with reference to the well-known proverbial sayings about wearing glass headresses and glass hoods, which I have already illustrated from our old authors.

The weak point in my argument was the assumption that *myte* might be a corruption of *mitre*; but I can now mend this. There really was a Low Lat. *mita* and an O.F. *mite*, which sometimes meant "a cap," though the usual sense was "mitten." It seems to be a relative of E. *mitten*, O.F. *mitaine*, and O.F. *miton*. DuCange gives *mita* as a variant of *mitana*, a mitten, and shows that the *mita* was often made of cloth. Godefroy explains *mita* as a sort of stuff or garment, not perceiving that in his quotation it clearly means "a cap." This quotation actually contrasts the *mita* with a *helmet*, and goes far towards settling the question: "Ilz ne se sçavoient armer.....forsque de grans haubers.....et de mites de toile costonnees, et par dessus ung grand chappel de fer ou de cuir bouilli."—J. le Bel, 'Chron.' i. 154 (Polain). The right sense is as follows: "They did not know how to arm themselves.....otherwise than with great haubers.....and with *mites* (caps) of cotton cloth, and above (these caps) a great helmet made of iron or of boiled leather." This shows that the *mita* was a (cotton-cloth) cap, worn under the helmet to protect the head from the cold hard iron or the inflexible leather. Moreover, this word *mita* is a fem. sb., and was originally dissyllabic, having a final *e*. It corresponds to Chaucer's *myte* letter for letter all through; for the scribes wrote *y* for long *i* before or after an *m*, or *n*, or *u*. Of course, I only give this solution for what it is worth, adding that it answers the strictest philological tests, whilst the attempted derivation of *myte* from the Lat. *modius* will only hold good for the first letter.

WALTER W. SKEAT.

5, Oak Grove, Cricklewood, N.W., Sept. 4, 1892.

MR. ELLIS's suggestion as to *vitremyte*, and his quite proper division of it into *vitre* and *myte* (if I may modernize the *y*), sent me to my Baretti—Baretti, Boyer, and Bailey being excellent bees from which the holiday philologist may gather honey. In my author I find the following entry, the accent, which is important, on the first syllable as here placed: "*Mitera*, a sheet of paper made in the shape of a mitre, put on the head of a malefactor condemned to be whipped, or to stand in the pillory."

Will that help to understand Chaucer's meaning? It seems that it may; for the decoration he gives the queen was meant to be a mock-decoration, to deride, or to express fallen fortunes. It clearly survived here for long as the fool's cap in schools, and might well have had another expression. That the *mitra* was *vitrea* (again accented by Baretti as here put), that is, that it should be glassy, or of a glittering tinsel sort, is quite in accord with the remainder.

As a patient worker on the long-lying 'Chaucer Concordance' I am interested in this.

JENNETT HUMPHREYS.

MRS. BARRETT BROWNING.

August 31, 1892.

On my return home yesterday, after a month's absence, my attention was drawn to a paragraph in the *Athenæum* of the 6th of August which states:—

"We are requested to contradict the assertion made in *Harper's Magazine* in May that Mr. Barrett, the father of Mrs. Browning, 'compounded with his creditors.' When Mr. Moulton Barrett, in the beginning of June, saw this statement, so injurious to his father's memory, he wrote to Messrs. Harper, saying that there was no foundation whatever for it, and asked them to publish his denial of it. The receipt of his letter was acknowledged, but no notice has been taken of his request in the numbers of the magazine for July and August. The statement is quite untrue, and we may add quite unwarrantable."

I, of course, accept this contradiction.

The words quoted, "compounded with his creditors," appeared in my article on Robert and Elizabeth Barrett Browning in *Harper's Magazine* for May, but in a context which I hope shows that I had no intention of giving them the meaning which is implied in your note. The paragraph was as follows:—

"She [Mrs. Browning] was about twenty when her mother's last illness began, and at the same time some money catastrophe, the result of other people's misdeeds, overtook Mr. Barrett. He would not allow his wife to be troubled or to be told of this crisis in his affairs, and he compounded with his creditors at an enormous cost, materially diminishing his income for life, so as to put off any change in the ways at Hope End until change could trouble the sick lady no more."

I had already, before the publication of your note, expressed my sincere and great regret to Mr. Barrett for having unintentionally used words which could be misunderstood, and I am also sorry that my absence from home has delayed the publication of an explanation in *Harper's Magazine*. I should like to add that the portion of my article concerning Mrs. Browning was written with Mr. Browning's knowledge, and that the proofs were submitted to him.

ANNE RITCHIE.

ALEXANDER III. OF SCOTLAND AND THE "THREE LEGS OF MAN."

44, Rodney Street, Liverpool.

IN your review of Count d'Alviella's recent work, 'La Migration des Symboles,' you quote his conjecture that the symbol, the *triskelion*, which is so familiar to us as the "three legs" of Man, "was in all probability first introduced into this country by some Crusader returning from the East by way of Sicily." This is very vague; allow me to show that something more is known about the matter. As Mr. H. R. Oswald pointed out in his 'Vestigia Insule Mannie Antiquior,' 1866, no armorial emblem in connexion with the island is known to have existed before the time of the Norwegian domination; the earliest traceable is that on the flag of the Norse Vikings, which was emblazoned with a ship in full sail. Amongst the Cottonian MSS. there exist two charters of Harald, King of Man, with the dates 1245-6. Their seals bear the ship on one side and a lion rampant on the other. But after the cession of the island to Alexander III. of Scotland, twenty years later, this emblem of the Norwegian kings disappears entirely, and the three legs symbol takes its place—the legs being covered with chain armour and being without spurs. It appears, then, almost certain, though we possess no literary document recording the fact, that to Alexander III. of Scotland is due the introduction of the "tre cassyn" as the distinguishing arms of the Isle of Man. But whence did he get it? Surely from Sicily, and in this way.

The closest intimacy existed between the Normans of Sicily and those of England. Frederick II. (1197-1250), the most illustrious of its Norman kings, married Isabella, daughter of Henry III. of England, by whom he had a son who died young. Manfred, the regent, was excommunicated by Pope Innocent IV., and the

crown of Sicily was offered in the year 1255 to Henry III. of England for his son Edmund. The king joyfully closed with the proposal, agreeing to raise an army and march into Italy, having accepted first a considerable advance of money from the Pope to commence the enterprise. Extensive preparations were made, and the king conferred upon his son beforehand the title of "King of Sicily." In the circle of the English Court this arrangement gave the highest satisfaction. The young prince was paraded in public in the Italian costume, and with the state of royalty. He set his ring, though but a boy, to a deed by which the Bishop of Hereford, John d'Aigue-Blanche, received the crown of Sicily as his proxy (June 22nd, 1259). The prince quartered the Sicilian arms with the royal arms of England, and doubtless banners with the three-legged symbol of Sicily were duly prepared for the campaign.

At this very time Alexander III. of Scotland and his queen, Margaret, the youngest daughter of Henry III., visited the English Court. The treaty between the Pope and the King of England was signed April 9th, 1255, and the visit of Alexander took place in August, 1256. They passed several months at the English Court, and doubtless the young Scottish king would take the greatest interest in the preparations that were being made for the invasion of Sicily. For several years (1255-9) the Court continued occupied with this business, when Henry, finding that he could no longer make it an excuse for raising more money, allowed it to pass into the limbo of forgotten projects. A few years later occurred the defeat of Haco, the Norwegian king, and his death, soon after which event the Isle of Man was ceded to Alexander, that is, in 1266. What more likely than that the king, when he struck the Norwegian flag, should replace it by one bearing the picturesque and striking device of Sicily, an island having so many points of resemblance with that of Man, over which his wife's sister had ruled as queen, and her brother had been appointed as king? The whole subject is worked out at much greater length in the *Manx Note-Book* for January, 1886. JOHN NEWTON.

LEE v. GIBBINGS.

14, King William Street, Strand, Sept. 7, 1892.

REFERRING to the correspondence relating to the above action contained in Nos. 3381, 3382, and 3383, I would remark as follows.

Mr. Lee's original complaint to you appeared in the number of the 28th of May, to which it is important the reader should refer. After I had sold to Mr. Gibbings the "remainder copies" referred to by Mr. Lee, the latter gentleman called on me on the subject of the work appearing in Mr. Gibbings's "Memoir Library"; and since he appeared to think he might have some cause of complaint against Mr. Gibbings as the publisher of that library for the use he was making of the work, I told Mr. Lee that in my own judgment and experience he could have none, and I thought he then saw that such must be the case. Afterwards, however, he brought his action against Mr. Gibbings, and applied for an injunction to restrain the sale of the work, with the result that he lost his case.

He had no pecuniary interest in the matter, the copyright was mine, and the loss on the publication was mine; and when I sought to reduce that loss, in the ordinary way of the trade, by selling off my remaining stock of the book, I, of course, knew right well that the purchaser in his own interest would not be likely to do anything calculated to injure either the reputation or the sale of the work. As to the 1,000 copies, I have shown how they were disposed of in my letter to you of August 20th, and it is absurd to suggest that none of the copies intended for America could be sold in England.

Mr. Lee suggests that he should have had the

opportunity of revising the book. This might have been so if the question of a reprint or new edition had arisen, but, unfortunately for myself, it was only the unsold remainder of the edition of 1,000 printed which Mr. Gibbings purchased and included in his "Memoir Library."

JOHN C. NIMMO.

** We have inserted the above letter of personal explanation, but do not desire to entertain any further discussion on the subject.

THE COMING PUBLISHING SEASON.

MESSRS. WARD, LOCK & Co. will publish in the forthcoming season, among other works, the twentieth edition of 'Haydn's Dictionary of Dates,' revised and brought down to the autumn of 1892 by Benjamin Vincent,—'A Biographical History of Guy's Hospital,' by Dr. Samuel Wilks and the late G. T. Bettany,—a new volume of sermons by Dr. George Mac Donald, entitled 'The Hope of the Gospel,'—'Mohammedanism,' 'The Great Indian Religions,' and 'A Short History of Judaism and Christianity,' three illustrated works by the late Mr. Bettany,—'The Carpenter and Joiner' and 'The Ornamental Draughtsman,' edited by Robert Scott Burn, illustrated,—'The Iron and Steel Maker,' edited by E. Joynson, illustrated,—'The Family Health Book' and 'Every-Day Ailments and Accidents,' edited by G. Black, M.B., illustrated,—'The Romance of Engineering,' by Henry Frith, illustrated,—'The Rajah of Monkey Island,' by Arthur Lee Knight, illustrated,—'The Pot of Gold, and other Stories,' by Mary E. Wilkins, illustrated,—a new story by Mrs. Whitney, entitled 'Golden Gossip,'—'Peveril of the Peak,' illustrated by Adrien Moreau,—'Strange Tales of a Nihilist,' by William Le Queux,—'Wedderburn's Will,' by Thomas Cobb,—'Julius Vernon,' by P. L. M'Dermott,—'Women Writers,' a new series of literary biographies, by C. J. Hamilton,—'The Printing Arts: Engraving, Lithography, Printing,' by John Whitfield Harland, illustrated,—'Chats about Soldiers and Sailors,' by Mercie Sunshine, illustrated,—and a new series of illustrated booklets, comprising Gray's 'Elegy,' with illustrations by Gibson, Gifford, and others; and Goldsmith's 'Deserted Village' and 'The Traveller,' both illustrated by M. M. Taylor.

Messrs. Sonnenschein & Co. announce for the autumn season:—In theology and philosophy: 'History of the Christian Church, A.D. 1-600,' by the late Dr. Wilhelm Moeller, translated by Andrew Rutherford,—'The Skeptics of the Italian and French Renaissance,' by the Rev. John Owen, 2 vols.,—Strauss's 'Life of Jesus,' translated by George Eliot, reprinted with an introduction by Prof. Pfeiderer,—'The Problem of Reality,' by E. Belfort Bax,—and two volumes of the 'Library of Philosophy': 'Appearance and Reality,' by F. H. Bradley, and 'The Principles of Psychology,' by G. F. Stout. In *belles-lettres* and history: Vol. IV. of Mr. McCall Theal's 'History of South Africa,' dealing with the years 1834-48,—a reprint of the scarce 1684 edition of Esquemelin's 'Buccaneers of America,' edited by Henry Powell, with facsimiles of portraits and maps,—a translation, by E. Nicklin, of Dr. Gilbert's 'Greek Constitutional Antiquities,'—an illustrated translation, by T. B. Harbottle, of Baron de Baye's 'Industrial Arts of the Anglo-Saxons,'—'Preferences in Art Life and Literature,' by Harry Quilter, illustrated,—'The Story of Kaspar Hauser,' by Elizabeth E. Evans,—'Sketches of Life and Character in Hungary,' by Margaret Fletcher, illustrations by Rose Le Quesne,—'From Adam's Peak to Elephanta (Ceylon and India),' by Edward Carpenter,—'A Concordance to the Poetical Works of Milton,' by John Bradshaw,—'A Cyclopædia of Military Science,' by Capt. C. N. Watts,—'A Browning Primer,' by E. P. Defries,—in the 'Standard Authors Series,' the following additions: 'The Diary and Letters of Madame

d'Arbly,' 4 vols.; 'The Letters and Works of Lady Mary Wortley Montagu,' 2 vols.; and 'The Life of Beau Brummel,' by Capt. Jesse, 2 vols.,—and in the "Dilettante Library": 'Browning and Whitman: a Study in Democracy,' by Oscar L. Triggs; 'Victor Hugo,' by J. Pringle Nichol; and 'The Greek Comic Poets,' translated by the late F. A. Paley, with the texts *en regard*. In social science: 'History of the Landed Interest,' by R. M. Garnier,—and the following additions to the "Social Science Series": 'Catholic Socialism,' by Dr. Nitti; 'University Extension,' by Dr. M. E. Sadler; 'Socialism, Scientific and Utopian,' by Frederick Engels; 'The Elements of Social Economy,' by Yves Guyot; 'The Progress and Prospects of Political Economy,' by Prof. J. K. Ingram; 'The Elements of Socialism,' by Prof. R. T. Ely; 'The Rights of Women,' by M. Ostrogorski; 'The Ethic of Usury and Interest,' by W. Blissard; 'The Labour Church Movement,' by John Trevor; 'Land Nationalization,' by Alfred Russel Wallace; 'Social Peace: Schultz-Gaevernitz,' edited by Graham Wallas; 'Ferdinand Lassalle,' by Edward Bernstein, translated by Eleanor Marx Aveling; and 'The Labour Party in New South Wales,' by Thomas B. Roydhouse and H. J. Taperell. Among educational works: 'Empire and Papacy in the Middle Ages,' a text-book of mediæval history for use in schools, by Alice D. Greenwood, with maps,—'An Anglo-Saxon Reader,' with notes and glossary, by Dr. James W. Bright,—'A Short History of Pedagogy,' by Prof. W. Rein, translated by C. C. van Liew,—'How Gertrude teaches her Children,' by J. H. Pestalozzi, edited by E. Cooke,—'A Manual of Roman Law,' by D. Chamier,—'A German Exercise Book,' by A. Sonnenschein,—'Spanish Grammar' and 'Spanish Reader and Writer,' by H. B. Clarke,—and 'Greek Grammar (Accidence),' by Prof. Sonnenschein.

JOHN GREENLEAF WHITTIER.

THE chorus of voices which lately in the evening and the morning papers attested English sympathy with the loss sustained, perhaps more by the general body than the literary minority of his countrymen, in the death of the poet Whittier, had in it, naturally, less of the minor than the major key. The death of a potent wielder of true-tempered literary weapons in a righteous contest, who rests, full of years and honour, after he has seen the cause he loved triumphant, is no matter for regret; and that a long period of rest from polemical activity intervened between the contest and the grave is probably well for the purely literary fame of the writer whose death we record.

For though on the great question of slavery, and kindred matters of national interest,

Against injustice, fraud, or wrong,
His heart beat high—

and this *vénérus*, or righteous indignation, produced stirring metrical arguments, full of passionate rhetoric, which appeal to his larger audience and are admirable in their kind, the poetic student will recur with more pleasure to what may be generally classed as Whittier's poems of nature. In these he often shows unrestrained pathos, natural observation, simplicity, purity, charity. Yet it is probably by the more impassioned strains of his martial music, the pugnacity and aggressiveness which he shared with his admirer and co-religionist John Bright, that his fame will live; and it is, perhaps, no injustice to his reputation to say that he will be remembered as the literary mouthpiece of political justice on a memorable occasion, rather than as a poet of the higher, though not the highest class among writers of English.

Born of a Quaker stock, which emigrated from Southampton early in the seventeenth century, at Haverhill, Massachusetts, on December 17th, 1807, and connected in the female line with the

Husseys and other families of Lincolnshire, Whittier was a typical American of the older kind, and had probably an education of a sufficient sort for a man of genius, though of literary instruction his early peasant and mechanic life afforded as little as might be. Occasional lessons on winter days, when outdoor work was impossible, and one year's course at a regular school, appear to have qualified the youth, in his own and his neighbours' estimation, for the instruction of others; and the young aspirant for literary honours supported himself from his twenty-first year by teaching, while he continued his own education. His imagination had been fired by the chance acquisition, at the age of fourteen, of a copy of Burns, who seems to share with Spenser the responsibility for much inoculation of the poetic virus. But from the age of eighteen, encouraged by the friendship of Lloyd Garrison, his connexion with the press was the outlet of his constructive talents. He was early an editor, the *American Manufacturer* of Boston being his first journal. The *Haverhill Gazette*, and the *New England Weekly Review*, of Hartford, were other ventures. In 1831 he joined the anti-slavery crusade inaugurated by the *Liberator*, a cause which afterwards owed much to his fervid lyrics. In the same year he set forth his first volume, 'Legends of New England, in Prose and Verse.'

He became secretary of the American Anti-slavery Society in 1836, and afterwards edited the *Freeman* at Philadelphia, in which city he tasted some of the stimulating joys of martyrdom, his office being wrecked by a mob. This and other episodes of personal danger he confronted with the high and calm spirit which rendered him the generous as well as the unflinching opponent of men like Webster and Randolph. In 1840 he took up his residence at Amesbury, a village near his birthplace, where he spent, in dignified but active seclusion, most of the remainder of his life. That he was deservedly honoured by his countrymen was sufficiently shown by the public greetings of his friends on the occasion of his seventieth birthday, and again on the 17th of December, 1887, when he completed his eightieth year. He passed away on the 7th inst., at Hampton Falls, New Hampshire.

His versatility and activity are indicated by the list of his works, most of which have from time to time been the subject of notice in our columns:—'Legends of New England, in Prose and Verse,' 1831; 'Moll Pitcher,' a poem, 1833; 'Mogg Megone,' a poem, 1836; 'Ballads,' 1838; 'Lays of my Home, and other Poems,' 1843; 'The Stranger in Lervill,' prose essays, 1845; 'Supernaturalism in New England,' 1847; 'Leaves from Margaret Smith's Journal,' 1849; 'The Voices of Freedom,' 1849; 'Old Portraits and Modern Sketches,' 1850; 'Songs of Labour, and other Poems,' 1850; 'The Chapel of the Hermits, and other Poems,' 1853; 'A Sabbath Verse,' 1853; 'Literary Recreations and Miscellanies,' 1854; 'The Panorama,' 1856; 'Home Ballads and Poems,' 1860; 'In War Time, and other Poems,' 1863; 'National Lyrics,' 2 vols., 1865-66; 'Snow-bound: a Winter Idyl,' 1866; 'The Tent on the Beach,' 1867; 'Among the Hills, and other Poems,' 1868; 'Ballads of New England,' 1870; 'Miriam, and other Poems,' 1870; 'Child Life,' 1870; 'The Pennsylvania Pilgrims, and other Poems,' 1872; 'Child Life in Prose,' 1873; 'Hazel Blossoms,' 1874; 'Mabel Martin,' 1875; 'Centennial Hymn,' 1876; 'River Path,' 1877; 'The Vision of Echard, and other Poems,' 1878; 'The King's Missive, and other Poems,' 1881; 'Bay of Seven Islands, and other Poems,' 1883; 'Early Poems,' 1884; 'Jack in the Pulpit,' 1884; 'Poems of Nature,' 1885; and 'St. Gregory's Guest, and Recent Poems,' 1886.

Of these the 'Songs of Labour' have been thought by many critics the most individually characteristic. Of the anti-slavery poems, 'The

Pine-Tree,' a fine outburst of declamation, and 'The Farewell of a Slave Mother' are among the best; while in a more reposeful strain 'Snow-bound' and 'Telling the Bees,' which may be found among Whittier's narrative and legendary poems, have received deserved appreciation. He wrote much devotional poetry, some of which will survive. Mr. Whittier never married.

Literary Gossip.

THE two forthcoming volumes of 'The Poets and Poetry of the Century,' edited by Mr. Alfred H. Miles, and published by Messrs. Hutchinson & Co. (bringing the published volumes up to seven in number), will include Vol. IV. (Frederick Tennyson to A. H. Clough), to which Dr. Japp furnishes articles containing original information respecting the Tennyson brothers. The other articles in the new volumes will be by Mr. Austin Dobson, Mr. Joseph Knight, Mr. A. H. Bullen, Dr. Furnival, Mr. Le Gallienne, Mr. Mackenzie Bell, Mr. J. H. Brown, Dr. Garnett, Mr. Ashcroft Noble, and other critics of standing. The work bids fair to become not only the most voluminous anthology of the time, but also one of the most important.

THE fourth volume of "Constable's Oriental Miscellany," now in the press, is a new edition of Broughton's 'Letters from a Mahratta Camp in 1809,' with an introduction by Sir M. E. Grant Duff, illustrations, and a map specially prepared for this edition. Messrs. Archibald Constable & Co. have also in preparation English editions of 'The Migration of Symbols,' by Count Goblet d'Alviella, edited by Sir George Birdwood; and 'English Settlements in Indo-China,' by M. J. Chailly-Bert.

It is pleasant to see the *œuvre* with which Mr. Gladstone has thrown himself into the arena at Burlington House. His contribution to the discussions of the assembled Orientalists is, of course, forcible in method, and his use of the peculiar title *ἀναξ ἀνδρῶν*, as applied to the potentates of Mycenæ and others, to support the thesis of an Egyptian dominion over early Hellas, seems likely to prove justified in fact as well as creditable to his ingenuity.

ORIENTALISTS will be interested in the publication by Messrs. W. H. Allen & Co. this week of Dr. Steingass's 'Persian and English Dictionary,' a revision and enlargement of the work by Johnson and Wilkins-Richardson.

MR. PERCY W. AMES writes:—

"The work of Sir James Redhouse to which reference is made in last week's 'Literary Gossip' consists of the transcription and translation of the Arabic manuscript presented by Warren Hastings to the India Office, together with about eight hundred pages of annotations, an introduction, and a few sketch maps and index. It is entitled 'Pearl-Strings: Narratives of the Resulizy Dynasty of Yemen.' The history covers the period from the reign of Saladin, A.D. 1170, to the death of Melik Eshref II., A.D. 1403. The work was presented to the University Library, Cambridge, but there should not be any difficulty in obtaining it, if Mr. Kay is disposed to act upon your hint to edit the MS. for the new Oriental Translation Fund, since a few years ago, when I had been considering with Sir James a plan for its publication, Dr. Robertson Smith wrote to me: 'There is no doubt that the MS. contains much

interesting and important matter, and the University, I feel sure, would be very glad to see it published.'

AN adaptation from the Persian of Mehemed Kadiri's version of the 'Tootnamé' or 'Tales of a Parrot,' by Mr. Condie Stephen, illustrated by Mr. Tristram Ellis, should be appreciated by juvenile English readers.

MR. G. BARNETT SMITH has, it is said, been engaged for the last five years upon an important work entitled 'The History of the English Parliament; together with an Account of the Parliaments of Scotland and Ireland.' It extends from the earliest times down to the great expansion of the suffrage by the Reform Acts of 1884-5, and will appear early in October. The 'History,' which will be illustrated by facsimiles of constitutional documents, will be published by Messrs. Ward, Lock & Co.

THE sixth session of the Edinburgh summer meetings in connexion with the University has just come to a close after a very successful month's work. The importance of this meeting increases year by year with the steadily increasing number of students and with the more complete organization of the plan of study.

THE first volume of Mr. Alfred Pollard's new series of "Books about Books," to be published by Messrs. Kegan Paul, Trübner & Co., will be 'The Great Book Collectors,' by Mr. Elton, Q.C., M.P.

THE same firm are about to publish a translation of Dury's 'History of Greece,' with an introduction by Prof. J. P. Mahaffy. This work, it will be remembered, was crowned by the French Academy on its first appearance, a few years ago. They will also add to their cheap edition of Dr. George Mac Donald's works a volume containing 'St. George and St. Michael.'

A NEW story by the author of 'The Silence of Dean Maitland' will commence in the first number of *Great Thoughts* for October.

THE third volume of 'Slang and its Analogues,' by John S. Farmer and W. E. Henley, is promised for October. Half the work will then presumably be in the hands of the subscribers.

MR. GRANT ALLEN has written a new serial story, entitled 'Blood Royal,' the first part of which will appear in *Chambers's Journal* for October.

It will be gratifying to Mr. Besant and the Society of Authors to know that there is one country where the value of literary property is highly appreciated, and that is Turkey. Some thieves broke into the house of Nighiah Hanum, daughter of General Osman Pasha, at Constantinople, the most fashionable and popular Turkish poetess. They stole her jewels, and they stole what they considered to be more precious—her MSS., including a large finished poem, entitled 'Ephesus.' The thieves have been caught, but it is not stated what is the fate of 'Ephesus,' and whether they had sold the copyright to a Turkish publisher.

MR. T. FISHER UNWIN has arranged to publish a uniform revised edition of the works of Mark Rutherford, edited by "his friend, Reuben Shapcott." The fifth edition of 'The Autobiography of Mark Rutherford,' to be published next week, will con-

tain certain additions. 'Mark Rutherford's Deliverance' will appear in October, 'The Revolution in Tanner's Lane' in November, and 'Miriam's Schooling, and other Papers,' in December. The last-named work has a frontispiece by Mr. Walter Crane.

MR. GILBERT PARKER's collection of short stories, to be entitled 'Pretty Pierre,' will be published early next month. It will contain the tales recently contributed by Mr. Parker to the *National Observer*, with one or two from the *New York Independent*. Messrs. Methuen, we believe, will be the publishers.

MR. PARKER has also completed a short serial, which will commence at once in the *English Illustrated*; and the Christmas number of *Good Words* is also to be from his pen. This will be a novel of about the average one-volume length, to be called 'The Chief Factor.' The plot deals with Scotch-Canadian life at the time of the contention between the Hudson Bay and the North-West companies for the possession of the fur regions—a struggle which (although the fact is not generally known in England) more than once resulted in bloodshed. As if that were not enough for one man, Mr. Parker has promised to write a story for Mr. Phil May's 'Christmas Annual.'

MR. GEORGE PARKIN, the author of 'Imperial Federation,' leaves for Canada to-day. He has been commissioned by the *Times* to write a series of articles on the relations between the Dominion and the States.

MR. JOHN GRANT, of Edinburgh, will publish in October a volume of poems by Mr. Robert Richardson, entitled 'Willow and Wattle.' The contents of the volume are selected from poems contributed to English and colonial magazines and newspapers during the past twenty years.

PROF. TYRRELL has, with the consent of his college, accepted the invitation of the Johns Hopkins University to deliver a course of lectures at Baltimore next spring.

JUDGING from the following extract, taken from the *Press* of Pretoria of August 13th, two valuable documents appear to have been discovered at Durban:—

"Durban, Thursday (special).—Another remarkable relic is added to the Art Exhibition, an original despatch of Napoleon Bonaparte to one of his generals during the time he held the post of general of the army in Italy. It is remarkable that two such unique relics as this and the Nelson letter should be found in so comparatively small a community."

THOSE who are interested in the kindergarten system may like to know that a book entitled 'Children's Rights,' by Kate Douglas Wiggin and her sister Nora A. Smith, with an introduction by Emily A. E. Shirreff, will be published this month by Messrs. Gay & Bird.

MR. ANDREW W. TIER, of the Leadenhall Press, is engaged on a little work on horn-books, and desires it to be known that he will be grateful for references to material and examples.

THE publishing business which has for a long period been carried on in Manchester under the designation of "Isaac Slater" is being turned into a limited company, with a capital of 60,000*l.*, under the name of "Slater's Directory Company, Limited."

The chief business of the concern is the publishing of directories, but besides this there is a large trade carried on in general printing, engraving, stationery, &c.

WE regret to hear of the death, at the age of seventy-seven, of Mr. Peter Allen, a member of the firm of Taylor, Garnett & Co., proprietors of the *Manchester Guardian*, which was founded in 1821 by the late Mr. John Edward Taylor, whose eldest daughter Mr. Allen married.

AT Leicester the retail booksellers and news-vendors possess an association, the object being to check the prevalent discount system. They have eaten an anniversary dinner, so we may hope that underselling has to some extent been checked by the organization.

THE publication of a series of articles on logic by Mr. Charles S. Peirce, entitled 'The Critic of Arguments,' commenced this month in the *Open Court*, Chicago.

THE MSS. of the Naples National Library are being newly arranged in a manner which renders them more available to the public. Among the most important are a martyrology of the eleventh century, and two Testaments of the same century richly illuminated. Among the MSS. in the Hindoo, Chinese, Arab, Persian, and other languages, the Persian are the most beautiful. Very valuable are illuminated MSS. of the 'Divina Commedia' of the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries.

M. CHARLES YRIARTE's forthcoming monograph on Isabella d'Este will continue his series of studies of the Italian Renaissance, in the form of the preceding volumes on the Malatestas and the Borgias.

DR. LIPSIVS, Theological Professor of Jena, who died on the 19th of August, has directed that his library—a collection of great general interest, especially in respect of complete series of magazines—is not to be dispersed, but shall be disposed of in its entirety. The whole has now been catalogued, and copies of the catalogue may be obtained, as well as further information, from Prof. Baumgarten, Jena.

DR. GEIGER, the distinguished editor of the 'Goethe Jahrbuch,' will issue by the end of this month the first instalment of a work giving a critical account of the extensive literary activity of Berlin from the accession of the Prince Elector Frederick III. (afterwards King Frederick I.) to that of King Frederick William IV. The work will bear the title of 'Berlin, 1688–1840: Geschichte des geistigen Lebens der preussischen Hauptstadt.'

ON the suggestion of a number of historical writers, a meeting of German historians has been convened, to be held on the 27th inst. at Munich, with a view of discussing the proposed reform in the teaching of history.

DR. WILHELM BUSCH purposes to treat the epoch of the Tudors, on which he has already published some monographs, in a comprehensive work, consisting of six volumes, and bearing the title of 'England unter den Tudors.' The first volume, which will be devoted to the reign of Henry VII., is to appear shortly.

IT is said that the second half of vol. ii. of the late Prof. B. ten Brink's

'Geschichte der englischen Literatur' will be published this month, and that his literary remains contain materials for two more volumes.

THE most interesting Parliamentary Papers of the week are Labour Statistics, Return of Wages of Policemen, Roadmen, &c. (1*s.* 3*d.*); Railway Servants, Hours of Labour Committee, Report and Evidence (2*s.* 8*d.*); and Education Reports for 1891–2, England and Wales (3*s.* 3*d.*), Scotland (2*s.*).

SCIENCE

The Grammar of Science. By Karl Pearson, M.A. (Scott.)

"THERE are periods in the growth of science," says the author in his preface, "when it is well to turn our attention from its imposing superstructure and to carefully examine its foundations"; and he proceeds to explain that the primary object of his work is to criticize "the fundamental concepts of modern science." This criticism occupies close upon 500 pages and ranges over a great variety of subjects, from "the reality of things" and "the nature of thought" to "the classification of the sciences." It is nearly always interesting, often acute and suggestive, but often also, we are sorry to say, narrow, weak, and carping. Singularly enough, the least satisfactory portion of the book is that which discusses the fundamental nature of probability, a subject which the author, as an expert in mathematics, might be expected to treat with special accuracy and lucidity. Nowhere does he attempt a formal definition of the word *chance*—a serious omission in a work which professes to deal with first principles. What does the mathematician really mean when he asserts that the chance of a certain event is, say, two-thirds? The reader will search Mr. Pearson's pages in vain for an answer to the question. Illustrations there are in abundance, old and hackneyed, about the tossing of coins and the extraction of balls; but what it is precisely that the illustrations illustrate it is not easy to gather. Yet the author, irritatingly and quite unnecessarily, goes out of his way in order to apply the theory of probability to the disproof of miracles, the odds against which, in any particular instance, he calculates by Laplace's formula to be about 1,000,000,000 to one. Now, though we do not feel called upon to defend any system of theology based upon the miraculous, we have no hesitation in asserting that Mr. Pearson's regrettable animus—an animus which obtrudes itself much too frequently throughout his book—has here betrayed him into writing nonsense. What is his definition of the term *miracle*? He gives none. If we define a miracle as a deviation from our hitherto uniform experience, then, in the teeth of Laplace's formula, miracles do occur with tolerable frequency, even in this sceptical moribund nineteenth century, and we have all witnessed them. Is not the upward spring of a small piece of iron attracted by a magnet a miracle, in this sense, to the person who observes the phenomenon for the first time in his life? What is it, to all appearance, but a deviation from the hitherto uniform sequence of those "sense-impressions" (to

use Mr. Pearson's favourite phrase) which we classify as the "Law of Gravitation"? A man sitting in London holds an audible conversation with another sitting in Paris: is this a miracle? Fifty years ago it would have been held so. Why then, and not now? Will Mr. Pearson say that these are not miracles in his sense of the word? Then we reply that he ought in that case to have explained what it was exactly that he professed to disprove. Had he taken the trouble to do this he might have felt less confidence as to the relevancy of his mathematical argument. Another strange inference in his chapter on probability, and one for which we do not find the shadow of a justification, is the following:—"Among the myriad planetary systems we see on a clear night, there surely must be myriad planets which have reached our own stage of development, and teem, or have teemed, with human life." The italics are ours. Surely the human here is a slip of the pen.

Adopting Weismann's theory of inheritance, which he considers all but proven, the author is of opinion that "good or bad habits acquired by the father or mother in their lifetime are not inherited by their children," and that "no degenerate and feeble stock will ever be converted into healthy and sound stock by the accumulated effects of education, good laws, and sanitary surroundings." This ready acceptance of a theory to which the most eminent biologists are opposed, and which is contradicted by such notorious facts as the inheritance by some animals (notably by shepherd dogs) of instincts implanted by man, is most unphilosophic. But here again the author betrays a bias, as may be seen from the following:—

"The removal of that process of natural selection which in the struggle for existence crushed out feeble and degenerate stocks, may be a real danger to society, if society relies solely on changed environment for converting its inherited bad into an inheritable good. If society is to shape its own future—if we are to replace the stern processes of natural law, which have raised us to our present high standard of civilization, by milder methods of eliminating the unfit—then we must be peculiarly cautious that in following our strong social instincts we do not at the same time weaken society by rendering the propagation of bad stock more and more easy."

The logical inference is evident. Society should rid itself as soon as possible of its bad and inferior stock; that is to say, it should execute off-hand its "anti-social" (commonly called "criminal") classes, and leave its weak and foolish members to perish in the struggle for existence. The author should have the courage of his convictions and formulate some feasible scheme for carrying his theory into practice. To prove that we have not misrepresented his meaning, we will give another quotation from a paragraph much further on in his book:—

"It is a false view of human solidarity, a weak humanitarianism, not a true humanism, which regrets that a capable and stalwart race of white men should replace a dark-skinned tribe which can neither utilize its land for the full benefit of mankind, nor contribute its quota to the common stock of human knowledge. The struggle of civilized man against uncivilized man and against nature produces a certain partial 'solidarity of humanity,' which involves a

prohibition against any individual community wasting the resources of mankind."

In justice to the author, we must add that he tells the reader in a foot-note that "this sentence must not be taken to justify a brutalizing destruction of human life," and that "the anti-social effects of such a mode of accelerating the survival of the fittest may go far to destroy the preponderating fitness of the survivor," that is to say, the "tribal conscience" must be listened to—when expedient.

Our readers may like to know something of the author's interesting, though, we need hardly say, not very successful attempt to explain the nature of thought. This explanation is much too long to be given in his own words, but we think it may be fairly epitomized as follows:—An external influence acting on the extremity of a sensory nerve produces a certain effect upon the brain. This he calls a *sense-impression*. If the impression is strongly stamped it becomes permanent, in which case he calls it an *impress*. These impresses, "stored up" in the brain and set in motion by some external or internal stimulus, constitute memory and thought. The author admits that this hypothetical account of the origin of ratiocination is not an explanation in the proper sense of the word; but he is sanguine that the problem, difficult as it may appear, is not wholly beyond the reach of human comprehension. We suppose it is to this and kindred fields of inquiry that he refers when in his introduction he finds fault with Prof. Huxley and other agnostics who would set limits to the possible achievements of science. But surely those limits exist. Can science advance beyond the materials at its disposal? Are not our senses limited both in their number and in their range? And does not this fact alone erect a barrier beyond which we can never hope to extend our knowledge? Indeed, the author himself asserts as much when he says that "the mind is absolutely confined within its nerve-exchange; beyond the walls of sense-impression it can logically infer nothing."

Mr. Pearson seems to be under the impression that he has disposed of all theistic arguments by affirming that "from will and consciousness associated with material machinery, we can infer nothing whatever as to will and consciousness without that machinery"—a proposition which, a little further on, in a foot-note of doubtful taste, he elucidates by saying that "consciousness without a nervous system is like a horse without a belly—a chimera, of which in customary language we deny the 'existence.'" Now, plausible arguments have been adduced both to prove and to disprove the existence of a Deity, and, without committing ourselves here to any opinion either way, we venture to assure Mr. Pearson that the question is by no means so simple as he imagines. His statement put into plainer language is that no data or evidence whatever would justify us in inferring the existence of a Conscious Being (such as a Deity) unless we had also evidence that that Being possessed some nervous system analogous to our own. Hence it would follow that not even a prophecy written in flaming letters across the sky, or spoken in articulate thunder from the clouds, and duly fulfilled

in all its details, ought to convince us that the writer or utterer of that prophecy was a conscious being, unless we had also evidence that he had a nervous system similar to our own. Surely, an assertion that leads to such an astounding conclusion as this requires no formal refutation. That no certain and sufficient evidence has as yet been adduced that such a Being actually exists is a proposition which may be maintained with more or less plausibility; but that no conceivable evidence of any kind whatever, even if forthcoming, should be accepted as sufficient, is a glaring absurdity.

It must not be supposed, because we have pointed out what we conceive to be grave blemishes in this "Grammar of Science," that we have formed an unfavourable opinion of it as a whole. On the contrary, we think that its author has written a valuable as well as a most interesting work. His discussions on the "Scientific Law," the "Geometry of Motion," the "Laws of Motion," &c., and his dissection of the scientific meaning of the word "matter" are extremely able, and generally, though by no means invariably, they are also sound and accurate. He argues that true science is only concerned with the systematic classification of our sense-impressions and concepts, without reference to or recognition of any *causing* entity whatever, whether mind or matter. Materialism, Theism, Mind-stuffism, &c., are to him meaningless conceptions of which science can take no account. These, with our notions of *cause* and *force*—when *cause* and *force* are spoken of as "things-in-themselves," instead of as mere concepts of our own creation—he scornfully consigns to that chaotic and shadowy limbo of non-entities commonly called metaphysics.

There is an interesting criticism near the end of the book on the conflicting hypotheses that have been advanced to account for the origin of life and consciousness. The author's own view leans strongly towards the theory of spontaneous generation, in support of which he argues as follows:—

"After the azoic age the physical conditions must be conceived as such that the various chemical compounds were evolved which ultimately culminated in the first proto-plasmic unit. But if this be so, it may be asked: Why cannot we find this sequence of sense-impressions in our present experience, why cannot we repeat the spontaneous generation of life in our laboratories? The reply probably lies in the statement that we seek to reverse a process which is irreversible..... We cannot assert where consciousness begins or ends, but we can trace back in continuous series the conscious to the unconscious, and it is no argument against the truth of the hypothesis that consciousness is spontaneously generated to say that we cannot repeat the process at our will."

The author does not seem to perceive that this conclusion is inconsistent with his theory that science can only deal with our *sense-impressions*. Matter, organic and inorganic, as a "thing-in-itself," he holds to be non-existent. From what else then have life and consciousness been spontaneously generated? From our sense-impressions? But to assert this would be to assert that consciousness has been generated by consciousness, which is the very antithesis of the proposition that Mr. Pearson has set himself to prove.

ANTHROPOLOGICAL NOTES.

AMONG recent communications to the Society of Anthropology of Paris recorded in its *Bulletins* may be mentioned two papers, one by M. Lajard on the whistling language of the Canary Islanders, and another by M. Bordier, the president of the Society for the present year, on whistling among primitive peoples. The sound is produced by the application of one or more fingers of one or both hands to the mouth, and may be heard at a distance of three kilometres (about two miles) or more. M. Bordier, remarking on the numerous phalanges of reindeer pierced with holes for whistling found in the neighbourhood of the Vézère, suggests that the Magdalenian man may have used a whistling language to communicate with his fellows at a distance. The like is suggested of the Ethiopian troglodytes mentioned by Herodotus ('Melpomene,' iv. 183), who "speak a language like no other, but screech like bats." M. Gaillard describes his explorations at the dolmen of the point of Conguel, Quiberon, where he found pottery ornamented with markings resembling those on the sculptured stones of Gavrinis; and further explorations at the dolmen of Roch' Priol, Quiberon, having also an interment in relation with it. M. Ollivier-Beauregard doubts the accepted description of the wooden figurines from Egypt, representing young female figures, of which six or eight exist in the museum of the Louvre, as dolls, and prefers to consider them as souvenirs, perhaps even portraits, of persons dear to those in whose tombs they have been found. He also describes a charmingly executed drawing on stone of a hyæna with a rat's tail offering a goose to a seated she-bear, and interprets it to mean a suggestion to Cleopatra that it would be well she should abdicate. In a further paper he discusses the relations between Egypt and Ethiopia, and describes the ruins of Axum. M. André Lefèvre contributes an interesting collection of superstitions and prayers prevalent and in use among the people of Champagne and Brie. M. Godel furnishes answers to the Society's questionnaire of sociology and ethnography for Conakry and Coya on the West Coast of Africa. M. L. Manouvrier in a lengthy paper (forty-two pages) studies the brain of the late Eugène Véron, an eminent journalist, who died in 1889, aged sixty-four, of cancer, and was the author of many important works on history and industrial and intellectual progress. The brain presented in the left temporal lobe a *sillon limbique*, and combined with a high development of its general form and convoluntary mass a certain number of irregular characters which, having been observed in the brains of criminals, have been supposed to indicate the criminal type. Their presence in a man as distinguished for high character and moral value as for intelligence is a lesson against hasty generalization.

In connexion with the "World's Columbian Exposition" of 1893 at Chicago, a "World's Congress Auxiliary" has been established to organize congresses upon a vast number of subjects. In the department of science and philosophy a committee for anthropology, including ethnology and archaeology, has been appointed, of which Prof. F. W. Putnam is chairman; but the Folk-lore Congress has been attached to the department of literature. In this an advisory council has been nominated, upon which Mr. Gomme, the President of the Folk-lore Society, and many distinguished English folk-lorists, are announced as serving.

ASTRONOMICAL NOTES.

A NEW comet (*d*, 1892) was discovered by Mr. Brooks at the Smith Observatory, Geneva, N.Y., about midnight on the 29th ult., in the south-eastern part of the constellation Auriga, not far from the star κ . It was afterwards observed by Dr. E. Lamp at Kiel and Herr G. Witt at Berlin on the 31st, when its place was found

to be R.A. 6^h 6^m, N.P.D. 58° 18', so that it was moving slowly in a south-easterly direction towards the constellation Gemini. Herr Witt describes it as a little fainter than Swift's comet (*a*, 1892) was at the same time, with a distinct nucleus, and easily seen in the finder.

Another small planet (the numbering of which is reserved) was discovered photographically by Dr. Max Wolf at Heidelberg on the 26th ult., and afterwards observed by Dr. Palisa at Vienna.

The increase in the brightness of Nova Aurigæ towards the end of last month, referred to in our "Notes" for the 27th ult., was not long maintained. The Rev. A. Freeman, of Murston, Sittingbourne, made a careful examination of it on the 28th, and found it nearly a magnitude fainter (a little below the tenth) than estimated by Mr. Espin on the 21st. Mr. Ranyard, editor of *Knowledge*, remarks that "the irregular changes which the brightness and spectrum of this star have undergone favour the theory" (suggested in his June number) "that the light of the Nova is due to its passage through an irregular nebula, rather than to a single collision or near approach of two stars moving in nearly opposite directions, as suggested by Dr. Huggins."

Mr. Maunder has an interesting article in this month's number of *Knowledge* on the 'Climate of Mars.'

THE COMING PUBLISHING SEASON.

MESSRS. SONNENSCHN'S announcements in science include 'Text-Book of Embryology: Man and Mammals,' by Dr. Oscar Hertwig, translated from the third German edition by Dr. E. L. Mark; 'Text-Book of Embryology: Invertebrates,' by Drs. Korschelt and Heider, translated by Dr. Mark and Dr. W. M. Woodworth; 'Text-Book of Comparative Geology,' adapted from the work of Dr. Kayser by Philip Lake; 'Text-Book of Paleontology for Zoological Students,' by Theodore T. Groom; 'Text-Book of Petrology,' by F. H. Hatch, being a revised and enlarged edition of 'An Introduction to the Study of Petrology,' 'Handbook of Systematic Botany,' by Dr. E. Warming, of Stockholm, translated by M. C. Potter (all the above text-books fully illustrated); 'Practical Bacteriology,' by Dr. Migula, translated and edited by H. J. Campbell; 'The Geographical Distribution of Disease in England and Wales,' by Alfred Haviland, with coloured maps; 'A Treatise on Public Hygiene and its Application in different European Countries,' by Dr. Albert Palmberg, translated, and the English portion edited and revised, by Arthur Newsholme, M.D., illustrated; 'The Photographer's Pocket-Book,' by Dr. E. Vogel, translated by E. C. Conrad, illustrated; 'The Recrudescence of Leprosy and the Report of the Leprosy Commission,' by William Tebb; 'Roaring in Horses: its Pathology and Treatment,' by P. J. Cadiot, translated by T. J. Watt Dollar; in the "Introductory Science Text-Books": 'Zoology,' by B. Lindsay; 'The Amphioxus,' by Dr. B. Hatschek and James Tuckey; 'Geology,' by Edward B. Aveling; 'Physiological Psychology,' by Dr. Th. Ziehen, adapted by Dr. Otto Beyer and C. C. van Liew; and 'Biology,' by Dr. H. J. Campbell; and in the "Young Collector Series": 'Flowering Plants,' by James Britten; 'Grasses,' by W. Hutchinson; 'Fishes,' by the Rev. H. C. Macpherson; and 'Mammalia,' by the Rev. H. C. Macpherson.

Science Gossip.

SIR R. BALL is preparing to take up his abode at Cambridge next term. His successor to the posts of Astronomer Royal for Ireland, and Andrews Professor of Astronomy in Trinity College, Dublin, will not be nominated till October. These appointments are in the gift of the Board of Trinity College.

DR. CREIGHTON writes to us to say that his 'History of Epidemics' is not in any way intended to bear upon the question of vaccination, and that it is unjust to describe it as "a controversial contribution to the literature of the anti-vaccinationists."

At the beginning of next session Prof. Billroth's twenty-five years' professorial jubilee will be celebrated at Vienna with due academical pomp and circumstance. His numerous pupils, both native and foreign, have combined to produce for the occasion a *Festschrift*, giving an account of the eminent surgeon's scientific achievements, and the Viennese students will, as a matter of course, celebrate the event by a *Festcommer* and the inevitable *Fackelzug*.

FINE ARTS

Syracusan "Medallions" and their Engravers in the Light of Recent Finds, &c. By Arthur J. Evans, F.S.A. (Quaritch.)

THIS is a reprint of an article from the *Numismatic Chronicle* of last year, and is the most important treatise on the coinage of Syracuse that has appeared since 1874, when Mr. Barclay V. Head published his well-known monograph on 'The Chronological Sequence of Coins of Syracuse.' As in the case of his recent work on the "Horsemen" of Tarentum, Mr. Evans confines his attention to a small section of the coinage of Syracuse, viz., from B.C. 440 to 360; it is, however, an important section as it embraces the period of issue of those fine dekadrachms or medallions which have been, and always will be, the admiration of numismatists and archaeologists, as also of many other coins of lesser denominations, which for beauty of design and excellence of workmanship have never been surpassed, or one might even say equalled. The medallions of this period must be considered in the light of a reissue, the first issue being that of the famous Damareteia struck in B.C. 479 to commemorate the victory of Gelon over the Carthaginians at Himera in the preceding year.

The treatise before us was suggested by a very remarkable find of Sicilian coins which was made by a peasant, in January of 1890, whilst digging in his plot of land at Santa Maria di Licodia, a small town situated on one of the westernmost spurs of Etna. The coins were contained in a pot and consisted of eighty pieces only, but of these no fewer than sixty-seven were Syracusan dekadrachms or *pentekontalitra*, commonly called "medallions." The other thirteen pieces were tetradrachms of Syracuse, Messina, Selinus, Motya, and Athens. The hoard was at once taken to the neighbouring town of Catana, where it was seen a few days later by Mr. Arthur Evans, who, being first in the field, was able to secure for his own collection some of the more important pieces. It was most fortunate that they fell into such capable hands. The sixty-seven dekadrachms were, with one exception, all the work of the well-known Syracusan artists Kimon and Evrenetos; but it is this one exceptional piece which forms the principal theme of this monograph, the engraver of which, for want of more definite information, Mr. Evans styles the "New Artist." This new medallion presents so many varieties from those by Kimon and Evrenetos, and is of such different workman-

ship, that Mr. Evans had no difficulty in at once coming to the conclusion that it must be the work of some unknown hand, and that he had met with a treasure. Besides this "unique monument of medallion art," the hoard supplied a "medallion" by Evānetos presenting his signature in full, and also some hitherto unpublished coins of Messana and Selinus; and when taken in conjunction with another recent find of Greek and Siculo-Punic coins in Western Sicily, it has furnished some new and valuable data for determining the chronology of these splendid pieces, and also the means "for solving more than one problem connected with the Syracusan coin-types of the last quarter of the fifth and the first of the fourth century B.C."

As to the date of this reissue of these medallions various views have from time to time been put forward, founded chiefly on the grounds of style and epigraphy. The Duc de Luynes attributed them to the later years of Dionysius I., who reigned B.C. 406-367, or to the younger tyrant of the same name. Leake, on the other hand, for the same reasons allotted them to the fifth century and early fourth century, and in this view he has been supported by Payne Knight, and more recently by Mr. Barclay Head. Mr. Evans concurs with this last view in the main, but not in its entirety; for whilst giving the majority of the medallions, especially those of finest work, to the reign of Dionysius I., he assigns their first issue to a date a few years anterior to the usurpation of that king. That the issue of these dekadrachms was due to some important event in the history of Syracuse, such as brought about the striking of the Damarēteia above mentioned, is apparent; and after a careful study, not only of all the coins of Syracuse of that period, but also of those of the neighbouring cities, Mr. Evans had no difficulty in connecting their origin with the first celebration of the Assinarian games, which were established in B.C. 412 to commemorate the signal defeat of the Athenians in the preceding year, when not only was their fleet utterly destroyed in the harbour of Syracuse, but their armies under Demosthenes and Nicias annihilated on the banks of the river Assinarius. These events were even of higher importance to the Syracusans than the defeat of the Carthaginians at Himera in A.C. 480. Their city was blockaded by sea and invested by land, and all hope of deliverance was abandoned; but suddenly a wonderful change of circumstances gave fresh life to the despairing inhabitants, and in the course of a few days or even hours, instead of suffering the fate of the conquered, they were the victors. It is, then, to the institution of the Assinarian games in A.C. 412 that Mr. Evans attributes this fresh issue of the medallion pieces. As this attribution placed the first issue of these medallions at an earlier date than is usually given, it necessitated a reconsideration of the classification of other portions of the coinage of Syracuse, both preceding and subsequent to this date; and the result has been that Mr. Evans arrives at conclusions somewhat varying from those of other numismatists who have given their attention to the subject, attributing to a slightly earlier date some coins which hitherto have

been ascribed to the Dionysian age, more especially the gold pieces of a hundred litræ and fifty litræ. As our subject chiefly lies with the issues of the medallions we need not enter into the author's numerous reasonings, beyond stating that they are founded on sound bases, and are not in any way fanciful.

To return to the reissue of the medallions. The artist employed to engrave the dies for these first pieces was Kimon, who at that time appears to have been the chief engraver at the mint of Syracuse. The type of these medallions differed but little from that of tetradrachms then in circulation in that city. On the obverse was the head of Arethusa, surrounded by dolphins, and on the reverse the victorious quadriga, its driver being crowned by Victory. In order, however, to make the piece more applicable to the event it was commemorating, the artist placed in the exergue below the quadriga a panoply of arms, consisting of a helmet, a thorax, a pair of greaves, and a shield, and the inscription AGAA; and to perpetuate his own association with this noble work he added his signature, either in full or in an abbreviated form, on the obverse or reverse, and sometimes on both. To B.C. 410, two years later, Mr. Evans assigns a fresh issue of the medallions. These are also by Kimon, and they can easily be distinguished from those of the earlier issue by a slight change in style, but not in type. In the first instance the artist took as his model for the head of Arethusa a tetradrachm by the artist Evānetos; in the second, however, he gives rather a different style of head, more original. It is archaic in style, and more Greeklike; the nose is straighter; the eye, looking down, has a pensive air; the chin is less rounded, and the lines of the neck are comparatively stiff. It is, however, a masterly production, and these varieties give the head of the nymph a distinct aspect, so that medallions of the second issue are easily distinguishable from those of the first.

From B.C. 410 there is a break in the issue of these large pieces, but with the accession of Dionysius I. in B.C. 406 the activity of the Syracusan mint is revived, and it is to this date that Mr. Evans assigns the most important production of the medallion. There are three distinct series. One is by Kimon, who adheres to his second type; the second is by Evānetos, who had been working on and off at Syracuse for nearly twenty years; and the third is by the "New Artist," of whose handiwork there is hitherto but one example, viz., that from the Santa Maria di Licodia hoard. Evānetos and the "New Artist" no longer portray on the obverse the head of the nymph Arethusa, with her luxuriant tresses confined in a beaded net; but in its place substitute that of the maiden goddess Persephone, crowned with "the earless barley spray, green and growing." So far the two artists are *en accord*; but when we examine the types of the reverse then we find no longer this uniformity of type. It is this which specially gives interest to this new medallion. In the case of Evānetos he adheres to his former representations of the quadriga, its driver, the crowning Victory, &c. The horses are in full gallop,

doing their utmost to arrive first at the winning-post, and urged at full speed by the goad of the charioteer. With the "New Artist" a different moment of the race is seized. The horses are no longer hurrying forward to reach the goal; they are passing it, and have actually arrived at the finish of the race; the driver, too, is checking them with all his power. In both cases we get the panoply of arms in the exergue as on the medallions of Kimon, but slightly varied. The medallions of Evānetos are usually signed, his name being given, with but one exception, in an abbreviated form; but on the medallion of the New Artist the signature is doubtful. Mr. Evans thinks he sees beneath the chariot a monogram, HX or NK , but it is so indistinct that until a better preserved specimen is forthcoming no decided opinion can be expressed.

In these medallions we certainly have the work of two very fine artists, and their treatment being somewhat different, it is difficult to determine to whom the palm for excellence should be given. A good opportunity for appreciating their different styles is supplied by the enlarged photographs in plates iv. and ix. On the whole, one cannot but admire more the work of Evānetos. The head of Persephone is well placed within the field of the coin; the margin around the back of the head serves to throw it into bold relief; the treatment of the head itself is most subtle and beautiful: the nose is slightly curved, the eye is full and has a calm expression, the chin well rounded, and the neck beautifully modelled, whilst the dolphins around swim in graceful attitudes, but at such a distance as not to interfere with the pleasing contour of the head of the goddess. In the "new medallion" the whole scheme is executed on a larger and bolder scale. The back of the head of Persephone with its flowing curls touches the edge of the coin; the face is certainly more majestic, but lacks the delicate treatment of the rival artist as regards the nose, which is straight, the eye, which being narrower has a staring look, and the modelling of the chin and neck. Again, the dolphins are too large, and, pressing near the head, tend to crowd the field of the coin. As to the reverse type, we miss the vigour of Evānetos's design; the horses' legs are all modelled after one design, their step being in perfect unison, and their heads and bodies are all alike, all turned in the same direction without any variation. That it is, however, a very fine specimen of medallion work every one must admit; but we must confess that we cannot give it all the praise which the author showers upon it, nor do we think that it can lay claim to so much originality as he would like to accord to it. For instance, Mr. Evans wishes us to see in this new piece the original of Evānetos's medallion. This seems very improbable, as it is not at all likely that an artist of his capacity would have sought his ideas from the work of another, and thus have taken a second place as a copyist. Again, Mr. Evans says that Evānetos copied from the new medallion the form of the earring worn by Persephone. How can that be when the same form is found on gold coins made by Evānetos, which, according to his own classification, were issued some years earlier?

In the arrangement of the arms in the exergue on the reverse the author sees again the prototype; but this again is only a copy, slightly differently treated, of what is to be found on the earlier pieces of Kimon. On the whole, therefore, we are inclined to give less importance to this new piece than the fortunate possessor, and to say that it was not Evānetos who was the copyist, but rather the "New Artist," who, however, did not execute his work in a servile manner, but sought to give it originality by slightly varying the design. We agree still less with Mr. Evans when he claims for this one single piece the important position of being the prototype of a section of the early coinage of Britain, instances of which are found from Plymouth to Oxford, tracing their type back through Armenia, Iberia, Rhoda, and Emporiae, in Spain, to Carthage, and thence to the medallion of Evānetos, and lastly to the "new medallion," from which Evānetos is supposed, by Mr. Evans, to have taken his design. We propose to adhere, at all events for the present, to the theories, long established and well grounded, of his father, Sir John Evans. That Mr. Arthur Evans is fortunate in having secured such an important coin for his collection all will freely admit, and he may well be proud of it; but in his exultation he has rather allowed himself to be carried away, and has, perhaps, viewed his coin with too partial an eye.

Little more need be said about the medallions. Their large issue shows that they were intended for general circulation, and that they were not merely struck as rewards or prizes at the games, especially as Mr. Evans proves that their issue was fairly continuous for a period of over forty years.

There are many points raised in the monograph respecting the coinage of Syracuse on which we should like to have touched, but space will scarcely permit us to do so. There is, however, one point, viz., that from his reclassification of the coins of this period it would appear that the issue of tetradrachms ceased for a considerable period about B.C. 406. Owing to Mr. Evans having antedated the first reissue of Syracusan medallions by several years, he has referred to a period previous to B.C. 406 all those tetradrachms which numismatists have hitherto assigned to the reign of Dionysius I., their place being filled by pieces of similar denomination issued by the neighbouring cities, by the Carthaginians, and by the *Pegasi* of Corinth. The evidence of one or two finds on such an important point must not be considered conclusive, and the question appears to us still open whether some of those pieces which bear the signatures of the artists PARME, IM, &c., and also those without artists' signatures, of which there are a good many, may not still have been issued for some time after Dionysius had usurped royal powers. Mr. Evans's argument is somewhat strengthened by the authority of Aristotle, who relates how that tyrant, being in want of silver, issued tin coins of the nominal value of four drachms. But the precise date of this fraud is not known, and we may well suspect that so unpopular an act would not have been committed early in his reign.

In the two chapters on "Kimon and his Works" and the "Career and Influence of

Evānetos," the author has furnished some important data of these artists, derived mainly from their numismatic productions. Having found the name of an earlier Kimon on a coin of Himera, Mr. Evans suggests that the Syracusan artist may have been a native of that city. He first finds traces of his work at Messana, then at Rhegium, next at Metapontum, and finally at Syracuse, where the coins show that he was actively engaged from B.C. 412 to B.C. 403 or later. We may, therefore, safely conclude that this artist ended his days in that city. Evānetos enjoyed a still longer and more glorious career. His early work on the coinage of Syracuse dates back to B.C. 425, and he remained in active employment there till about B.C. 413. After this date we find him for an interval of five years employed at the neighbouring mints of Katana, Kamarina, and not improbably Segesta. Returning to Syracuse about B.C. 408, when he assisted Kimon in engraving dies for the gold hundred-litra pieces, he was from that time engaged on the coinage of that city till as late as B.C. 385. His active life thus covered a period of nearly half a century, an unusually long career for an artist, and it is, therefore, not surprising that traces of failing power are detected in some of his later designs.

To his treatise on 'Syracusan Medallions and their Engravers' Mr. Evans adds an article, republished from the *Numismatic Chronicle* of 1890, on 'Some New Artists' Signatures on Sicilian Coins,' as it helps to elucidate many points in the first one. It was in this monograph that Mr. Evans first published his discovery of an earlier artist named Kimon, whose signature occurs on a tetradrachm of Himera, which cannot be assigned to a later date than B.C. 450. He naturally connects this early Kimon with the later artist of the same name at Syracuse, and gives to them the relationship of grandfather and grandson. On another coin of Himera he finds a new engraver's initials, MAI (Mæon or Mæthron), who was working about B.C. 409. He also connects the later Kimon with the mint of Messana, furnishes further particulars of the Syracusan artist Evarchidas, who was associated with Phrygillus, and brings to light many new works of the engravers Parme at Syracuse and Exakestidas at Kamarina.

We need only add that the monograph is illustrated by ten excellent autotype plates, without the aid of which it would not have been possible to appreciate fully the force of the author's arguments, or to follow him in his minute comparisons of styles and types.

THE CHURCH OF WIGGENHALL.

King's Lynn, Sept. 2, 1892.

My attention has been called to-day to a letter of Mr. W. H. M. Ellis, stating the *chancel stalls* in the church of Wiggenhall St. Mary's have been carried away; the famous screen, dated 1625, is gone; the famous sixteenth century *lectern moved*—whatever that may mean—certainly not from the church. The italics are quotations from the letter.

I have known the church of Wiggenhall St. Mary's some fifty years; in that time there was no famous screen dated 1625, and none removed. A screen enclosed the Kerville Chapel at the east end of the south aisle, of good middle fifteenth century work; that

has been repaired, and the lost parts reinstated in the most careful manner by Gustavus Helsham, Esq. The fifteenth century brass eagle lectern—I never saw any other—with its inscription, is perfect and well cared for, standing where it has always, in my time, stood, at the east end of the central walk of the nave. The panels of the chancel (*medieval*) screen had been carefully placed at the west end a quarter of a century before the present incumbency.

As to the chancel, it certainly never had any stalls. I sketched the chained books in it some forty-five years since. It may not be generally known that up to thirty years ago the church of St. Mary's, so far from having stalls, retained the Puritan arrangement of seats all round the walls, and the Communion table in the centre of the chancel. This has been altered. The bench ends of the nave are, perhaps, the finest in any village church in England; the men's seats are on the north side, and women's on the south—the men's higher and larger than the women's. On the face of the ends on the men's side are male saints except one, St. Agatha, with the usual emblem of a knife cutting off her right breast, for a purpose which is well known. On the face of bench ends on the women's side are female saints, and the lily in commemoration of the dedication of the church.

I would that all churches had been treated with the same reverent and intelligent care. I need not add the carrying away by the lay impropiator Mr. Bagge is purely imaginary.

EDWARD MILLIGEN BELOE, F.S.A.

Gaywood Hall, Lynn, Sept. 6, 1892.

In your paper of August 20th you were kind enough to insert a letter signed W. H. M. Ellis respecting the church of Wiggenhall St. Mary's, in which this paragraph occurs: "The chancel stalls have been carried away by the lay impropiator Mr. Bagge to Gaywood." Allow me to say that this is untrue, and, without questioning the motives of your correspondent, I am surprised he should have made such an unwarrantable assertion.

T. EDWARD BAGGE.

THE PRESERVATION OF INDIAN MONUMENTS.

I HAVE read with much interest your review of Dr. Führer's report upon his work in the North-West Provinces and Oudh ('Archeological Survey of India'), and having recently returned from that part of India, and having seen some of the work upon which he and his colleague have been engaged, I can testify to its extreme importance. But for the work of these able archeologists a record of some of the most exquisite buildings of the Mogul empire and of earlier periods, and of the elaborate decoration which they display, might never have been made before they had been swept away by the destruction which even now threatens them—from the hand of ignorant man, from the overgrowth of jungle, and from the devastating power of the monsoon rains.

Some of your readers may not be aware that there are scores and hundreds of historical monuments and of priceless works of art at this moment in danger of ruin from these causes; and why? Because the authorities do not think themselves justified in spending the public money in the preservation of mere works of art, in which the English people, they consider, take no interest; and not having realized the value of these buildings, they have no definite organization or fund for their preservation.

Dr. Führer has been most usefully engaged—in addition to his work of excavation—with the assistance of Mr. E. A. Smith, in surveying, making plans and drawings, and in taking photographs at Jaunpur, Fathpur Sikri, Mathura, &c.; but are we to be satisfied with that, when the buildings themselves are in danger, and when the timely and judicious expenditure of a few rupees, here and there,

might save whole temples and mosques from destruction? Even Dr. Führer's department is in danger of extinction, and similar departments in other provinces have actually been given up.

Are lovers of India and lovers of art to be satisfied with such a state of things as this? Are not India's buildings one of her greatest glories? and are we, who have the custody of the country, to sit still and shrug our shoulders until a time—not far hence, if this state of things continues—when it will be too late, and when the treasures which now exist will be no more?

It must not, however, be supposed that nothing is done for the preservation of ancient buildings in India. On the contrary, there are certain specific buildings of the highest importance in which the English are known to take an interest; e.g. the Taj, where the danger is not that they be overlooked, but that they be over-restored, when a zealous civil engineer is turned loose, and, in order to "make a good job of it," pulls down here and rebuilds there, and ends in constructing a building which is spick and span and to his own fancy, but utterly unlike the old building which he was sent to "restore."

This is not what is wanted, and is far too costly a process. What is required is a society, such as that which has proved so satisfactory in Egypt during the last ten years, and is commented upon in the *Athenæum* of the 3rd inst., which shall catalogue the buildings of first importance throughout the Indian peninsula, examine them periodically, treat them with reverence, and keep them in repair, but not "restore" them.

To give you an instance of the value of a few rupees to history and art I may mention one solitary instance. When visiting Fathpur Sikri—Akbar's royal city, now deserted—under the guidance of one of Dr. Führer's colleagues, a most exquisite design in stamped plaster was pointed out to me inside one of the domes of the Hammam, displaying patterns which are not known to exist elsewhere; but at the same time my attention was called to an ominous hole in the dome, and it was explained that when the next monsoon broke the force of the rains would enlarge the hole, and in all probability both dome and patterns would be destroyed. My guide pointed out that the danger might be averted by the expenditure of a few rupees, but that he had neither funds nor materials nor the authority to get the necessary repairs carried out. A note, however, to the secretary of the province produced a courteous reply; a workman was speedily sent to the spot, and the hole was repaired at the cost of a very small sum of money.

The remedy lies with the Government; and if their attention were drawn to the subject, and if they found that the English public was really interested in the historical monuments of India, I cannot help feeling that an organization for their preservation might speedily be formed.

A. H. H. M.

First Art Society.

MR. FLINDERS PETRIE's exhibition of the objects discovered by him at Tel el-Amarna will be open to the public from September 19th to October 15th at the Oxford Mansions, Oxford Street.

A CONTEMPORARY avers that "the London County Council is considering the advisability of erecting a palatial Hôtel de Ville." Doubtless the ratepayers will duly attend to this matter, not forgetting that the stupendous Hôtel de Ville in Paris has already cost that metropolis between two and three millions sterling, and, so far as its decorations go, is not yet finished. Our concern in the subject is chiefly in hoping that, ere this or any similar adventure takes effect, the designs for the proposed edifice shall be submitted to searching

and public criticism by experts, and that nothing less than a model of the work shall be offered for judgment. Elevations, diagrams, sections, and perspective drawings are all very well so far as they go, yet no one without training really understands what he sees on paper. A fair-size model is patent to everybody.

THE Continental Gallery, New Bond Street, has been opened with a selection of paintings from the Paris Salons.

THE Ruskin Museum at Sheffield, which has been closed for some time, was reopened last week. During the interregnum many improvements and additions have been made.

A FINE-ART gallery has lately been opened at Tunbridge Wells on the historic Pantiles.

MR. HUGH THOMSON has just completed fifty drawings to illustrate various eighteenth century poems by Mr. Austin Dobson, which will appear under the title of 'The Ballad of Beau Brocade, and other Poems,' and be published simultaneously in England and America by Messrs. Kegan Paul & Co. and Messrs. Dodd, Mead & Co.

MR. WALTER W. BURGESS has been for some years engaged in sketching the historic houses and picturesque views in Chelsea. These drawings have furnished materials for a series of etchings, which he is preparing for publication by Messrs. Kegan Paul & Co., under the title of 'Bits of Old Chelsea.' The letterpress will be furnished by Mr. Lionel Johnson and others.

It is the fashion with a certain class of amateurs in architecture to ascribe to the artisan of the Middle Ages those designs for noble buildings which in their execution have, since their time, enchanted the world. Architects proper know better, and point to numerous proofs to the contrary, which demonstrate that, except, perhaps, rude instances where prevailing types have been followed without scruple, it is manifest that a system analogous to the modern one obtained in all important cases. We cited the other day an example where it is recorded that a patron of the fourteenth century, who was desirous of building on a considerable scale, sent for a monk of Worcester, who designed and superintended the work for him. The incised slabs at Rouen commemorate two now nameless worthies, and show one of them holding a pair of compasses in one hand and in the other hand an elaborate design for the tracery of a window. It is obvious from their costumes that these men were not artisans. The 'Sketch-Book' of Willars de Honcourt, which was published in facsimile by Prof. Willis, attests that he was, in the modern sense of the term, an architect of the thirteenth or fourteenth century. Street produced several proofs, derived from the benches of certain buildings, that they were erected from designs proper, and not according to rules of thumb; but he did not notice a passage in 'Henry IV.,' Act I. sc. ii., which is conclusive as to the practice in Shakespeare's time when it avers that

— when we mean to build,
We first survey the plot, then draw the model;
And when we see the figure of the house,
Then must we rate the cost of the erection.

Architecture in Shakespeare's time was much less difficult, complex, and (above all) scientific than it had been during the Middle Ages; so much less was the latter likely to have been due to rules of thumb.

THE studies of the Italian old masters which for some years past have appeared in one of the monthly magazines, with accompanying text by Mr. Stillman, are now to be collected and published in volume form. There is to be a special numbered edition of sixty copies, with proofs from the original blocks, before the preparation of the large popular edition. This work at any rate bids fair to be the most exhaustive collection of word and picture studies from the Italian

masters which has been attempted by a single firm and a single editor.

WE regret to record the death last week of Mr. Josiah Gilbert, the accomplished and sympathetic author of the 'Dolomites,' and of 'Titian and the Cadore Country.' Independently of these works, his reputation had been secured by means of several excellent though less important efforts, nearly all of which had commensurate success, and were marked with the writer's care, research, literary skill, and just feeling for his subjects. Mr. Gilbert was much annoyed that people persisted in calling his *opus magnum* "Churchill and Gilbert's 'Dolomites,'" although Churchill had only written one chapter in the book; and he was extremely vexed when Dean Stanley, with his habitual inaccuracy, spoke of "Churchill's 'Dolomites,'" ignoring Mr. Gilbert altogether. Yet the wrong order became fixed in people's mind. We remember once, in the visitors' book of a well-known inn in the Dolomites, coming across a note of Mr. Gilbert's, which he wrote on revisiting the district, and in which he signed himself "Joint author of Gilbert and Churchill's 'Dolomites.'" Some subsequent traveller, struck by the order in which the names were placed, had underlined them and written below "Conceited author!"

A MONUMENT in honour of the well-known architect Gottfried Semper was unveiled on the 1st inst. at Dresden, and at the same time an exhibition was opened illustrative of his artistic activity.

MUSIC

THE WEEK.

FESTIVAL OF THE THREE CHOIRS.

THE celebration of this week was the 169th since the first meeting of the three cathedral choirs of Gloucester, Worcester, and Hereford, and will take rank among the most valuable in respect of the services it rendered alike to art and charity. As regards the performances of the first day there is little to be said, the works being 'Elijah' and 'The Redemption.' Interest really centred in the efforts of the chorus, which, as we stated last week, consisted, for the first time for many years, entirely of West-country choristers. So far as can be judged at present, that is to say, having reference only to the first and second days of the festival, there will be no reason to revert to the more cautious policy of securing assistance from Yorkshire. True, in volume of tone the present choir cannot compare with that of three years ago; but as regards quality there is nothing to be desired, and the tenors may be selected for special praise, their *timbre* being that of the true tenor, as distinct from the high baritone. At the same time there was room for amendment as regards attack, the entries being not infrequently feeble and hesitating, more especially in 'Elijah,' the rendering of Gounod's work being, on the whole, more commendable. Mr. Santley once again gave his masterly impersonation of the leading part in Mendelssohn's oratorio, and, notwithstanding the ravages of time, he remains unapproachable in this rôle. Miss Anna Williams, Miss Hilda Wilson, and Mr. Lloyd were the principal vocalists in the morning. In 'The Redemption' Madame Nordica took the leading soprano part, but did not seem quite at her ease. On the other hand, praise absolutely unqualified

must be given to Mr. Edwin Houghton and Mr. Plunket Greene as the two narrators, and to Mr. Watkin Mills in the part of the Saviour. The *tempi* adopted by Mr. Lee Williams were occasionally open to question, but he conducted with conspicuous care and judgment.

The only fault that could be found with the scheme of Wednesday morning was its extreme length. The greater part of Handel's 'Joshua,' the same composer's Organ Concerto in F, No. 4 of the first set, Prof. Bridge's setting of 'The Lord's Prayer,' and Bach's cantata "My spirit was in heaviness," form together a programme too arduous for the performers and not easily to be assimilated by any audience. The revival of 'Joshua' was welcome, for this fine and vigorous oratorio suffers neglect wholly unmerited, being as it is every whit as effective as 'Judas Maccabæus,' with which it has much in common. It was performed in London during one of the last seasons of the ill-fated Borough of Hackney Choral Association under Mr. Ebenezer Prout, whose additional accompaniments were used on the present occasion. At the London performance we spoke in approving terms of Mr. Prout's Handelian labours, which are always to him as a labour of love, and we have nothing to add. The rendering at Gloucester was in a sense irritating, for it showed that it would certainly have been excellent with a little more rehearsal. The choir attacked the magnificent choruses with the best intentions, and were only prevented from doing them complete justice by want of a thorough understanding with the conductor, Mr. Lee Williams. The solos were all admirably sung by Miss Anna Williams, Miss Hilda Wilson, Mr. Lloyd, and Mr. Watkin Mills. A very fine performance of the concerto was given by Mr. G. R. Sinclair, the organist of Hereford Cathedral, the execution being true and even, and the solo instrument in perfect union with the orchestra throughout.

Dr. Bridge's little work is a setting of the version of the Lord's Prayer in the eleventh canto of Dante's 'Purgatorio,' as translated in *terza rima* by the late Dr. Plumptre. It is for chorus and orchestra only, and is in three connected movements. Unpretentious to a degree, it is scholarly and extremely pleasing, showing throughout the hand of an accomplished musician who knows how to gain effects with simple means. The tranquil close is particularly charming, and the whole will sustain, if it cannot enhance, the reputation of the composer. The performance, under Dr. Bridge's direction, was in every sense satisfactory. The same cannot be said of the rendering of Bach's cantata, the difficulties of which were by no means successfully overcome. Indeed, in one or two places it needed the utmost care on the part of Mr. Lee Williams to prevent disaster. The choir were in all probability fatigued, and the lesson should not be lost on those who have the conduct of these festivals.

Of the remainder of the performances we must speak next week.

SONG ALBUMS.

BOOKS of songs, either new or selected from the works of acknowledged masters, continue to be issued in increasing numbers. Among

those received since our last notice are the following: *The Loeve Album*, in two books, containing thirteen of the composer's most striking ballads, with German and English words, and a preface by Mr. Albert B. Bach (Weekes & Co.); *Six Songs*, by Herbert Baines (same publishers), being simple and unaffected settings from Shakespeare and other authors; *Twelve Songs by Heine*, set to music by Louis N. Parker (same publishers), musically, expressive, and not too elaborate, with the original German words and an excellent English translation by the composer; *Six Songs*, by Arthur Page (Forsyth Brothers), smoothly written, but on the whole commonplace; *Vier Lieder*, by Gustav Jensen, Op. 30 (Augener & Co.), in the genial composer's best style, and with English and German words; *Songs of Nature*, by G. L. Roeckel (Ashdown), being twelve two-part songs or choruses for schools and classes, tuneful and sufficiently simple for their purpose; *Songs and Ballads of Scotland*, Part I. (Edinburgh, Paterson & Sons), the first instalment of a collection of Northern melodies, with accompaniments of the simplest character, by Mr. Hamish MacCunn; and *Pastoral Album*, by Alfred Moffatt, Op. 38 (same publishers), a series of six two-part songs of autumn and winter, suitable for youthful singers.

We have also received four books, of twelve songs each, by Handel, for soprano, contralto, tenor, and baritone or bass respectively, edited, with marks of phrasing, expression, and breathing, by Alberto Randegger (Novello, Ewer & Co.), the songs being selected exclusively from the oratorios; and *Schumann's Complete Vocal Duets*, with English and German words (Augener & Co.).

Musical Gossip.

THE Queen has accepted the dedication of 'Songs of the Four Nations,' a collection of the lesser-known national songs of England, Scotland, Wales, and Ireland, which is shortly to be published by Messrs. Cramer & Co. This volume will be edited by Mr. Harold Boulton, and the music arranged by Mr. Arthur Somervell, and aims at doing for the United Kingdom as a whole what 'Songs of the North,' under the same editorship, did for Scotland in reintroducing ancient melodies to general notice. A feature of the work will be songs (with English words in every case) in all the five Celtic languages of the United Kingdom, namely, Cornish, Highland-Gaelic, Manx, Welsh, and Erse (Irish).

THE announcement that some of the metropolitan musical clubs, which have been founded so freely within the last few years, are in danger of extinction may be received with mixed feelings. They have probably interfered not a little with legitimate concerts, while their own entertainments have been, for the most part, of no value whatever in an artistic sense. If they reflect the general condition of musical taste at present, our boasted progress is a myth.

VERDI is now said to be at work on an opera on the subject of 'King Lear,' which he commenced some time ago and temporarily suspended. Asked concerning this renewal of activity at his advanced age, he replied that he found writing music an organic necessity of his existence at present.

THE German theatre in St. Petersburg, which was closed two years ago, is to be re-established by a German society at its own risk, that is to say, without any subvention from the State.

IN the church of St. Bartholomew in the Hartz, now undergoing repair, a large number of books and manuscripts of songs of mediæval composers is said to have been discovered. Among them are works by Heinrich Schütz, Pretorius, and Orlando di Lasso. The manuscripts, some of which are unfortunately incomplete, include cantatas and masses by Haydn, and other compositions by Emmanuel Bach and Graun.

FEBRUARY 13th next year will be the tenth anniversary of the death of Wagner, and copy-right in his works will then cease throughout the Austrian dominions. The probability of 'Parsifal' being performed at the Vienna Opera has led Frau Cosima Wagner to make personal endeavours to prevent an undertaking which would, of course, endanger the stability of Bayreuth, and be repugnant to the feelings of many on account of the deeply religious nature of the work. It is now said that a measure will shortly be introduced to amend the law on this matter; but whether it will be passed before the date above named seems uncertain.

HERR JAHN, one of the conductors of the Vienna Hoftheater, will shortly complete his eightieth year, but he is still active in the discharge of his duties. In his youth he was a tenor singer, and it was owing to a curious incident that he was led to change his vocation. At one of the provincial theatres the conductor was unexpectedly absent, and Herr Jahn occupied the vacant seat with such striking success that he at once determined to adopt the career in which he has since gained a very high position.

DRAMA

Dramatic Gossip.

ONE theatre has been added to the short list of houses at which entertainments are now offered. On Saturday last the Royalty opened for what, in a rather sanguine spirit, is called "a summer season." Sufficiently miscellaneous is the programme, including interludes of song, dance, and prestidigitation. Three one-act plays were also given: 'Marriage Bells,' a piece inspired by 'Sweethearts'; 'Madge,' a variation on the subject of David Garrick; and 'The Bab-Ballad-Monger,' a fairly successful skit upon pieces recently played at the Haymarket and the Strand. The chief attraction in this is an imitation by Mr. Lindo of the manner of Mr. Beerbohm Tree.

WE copy the statement that Mr. Henry James is engaged upon a new play. This is good news. 'The American' disclosed genuine power, though the choice of incidents and method of treatment were unfortunate. Experience has been obtained since that time, and we are aptest to profit by the wisdom that is beaten into us.

MISS BURNLEY's intercalary season at the Garrick will, it is anticipated, begin with the production of her own play 'The Awakening' on the 1st of October. Her company is to include Mr. Herbert Waring and Miss Vane Featherstone.

THE reopening of Drury Lane with 'The Prodigal Daughter,' the new drama of Sir Augustus Harris and Mr. Henry Pettitt, on Saturday next, will mark the beginning of the winter season.

AN edition of Mr. Henry Arthur Jones's fine play 'The Crusaders,' with a preface by Mr. William Archer, is said to be in contemplation.

MADAME MODJESKA contemplates challenging comparisons with the Lyceum by producing 'King Henry VIII.'

A ONE-ACT play by Mr. Conan Doyle has been accepted by Mr. Irving.

SUCH has been the dearth of theatrical news that the periodicals giving columns of theatrical gossip have been compelled either to close them or to chronicle the doings at the music-halls.

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